

Views from

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

When Melissa was in the seventh grade she was in the marching band and also competed in girl's athletics at Elba High School in volleyball, basketball and softball. This year she still competed in all three sports, but did give up band, which at least gave her a little time at home to do her homework and sleep. Well, last week she tried out for cheerleader and was named the co-captain of the junior high cheerleading squad. That means that next school year she will be cheering for the junior team in football and basketball, while at the same time still competing in volleyball, basketball and softball. If she survives the hectic schedule and keeps her grades up, it looks like a busy ninth grade year ahead.

A.R.P.A. TOURNAMENTS PROVIDE EXCITEMENT

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation hosted the District 8 Basketball Tournaments in Girl's 12 and Under, Boy's 12 and Under, and Girl's 10 and Under, last weekend, and after a shaky start pulled off the tournaments without a hitch. The tourney was scheduled to be held in the high school gym and the physical education gym at Elba High School; however, the warm, muggy weather caused condensation in the physical ed gym and made the rubber court unplayable. Supt. Charles Pearce came to the rescue of the recreation department by allowing the games scheduled for the P.E. gym to be played at the gym in the Elba Elementary School, and after some last-minute moving of chairs and equipment, all the games were held on time and the hundreds of visitors to Elba braved about the beautiful schools and gyms in which the games were played. It got off to a shaky start, but once the tournament got started it was smooth sailing.

Elba had three All-Star teams in the tournaments and all three made it to the semifinal round before being ousted. The two girls' teams competed, despite having leagues only one year, and made solid showings in both age divisions. The "10 and Under Girls" owned early leads twice against eventual champion Geneva before being defeated, while the "12 and Under Girls" claimed a big win over Opp in the opening round, but were also ousted by eventual champ, and defending state champ, Geneva, in semifinal action. The "12 and Under Boys" eliminated rival New Brockton in opening round action, but like the other Elba teams fell in the semifinals, this time to Enterprise. The Elba teams were all huge under-dogs in the tournaments, but played hard and showed everyone in attendance that the Elba leagues are indeed doing their jobs to teach the youngsters the basics of basketball. Good job!

NO SURPRISES AT STATE PREP FINAL 4

It was business as expected at the Alabama High School Athletic Association's "Final 4" last week in Birmingham, with the favorites claiming titles in all classifications. The biggest favorites were West End and Butler in Class 6A; and Eufaula in 5A girls, and all three made it look easy. The site of the tournament kept many area fans from making the trip, but it made little difference as over 12,000 fans packed the Civic Center for the 6A finals. It looks like the "Final 4" are in Birmingham to stay.

Daleville made it to the "Final 4" in the 4A ranks and saw its dream of winning the state title go up in smoke, as a desperation 80-foot shot at the buzzer, in overtime, tied the score and allowed Alexandria to stay alive, and later win the wildest game of the entire week. Daleville was winning by three-points with 1.1 seconds left on the clock in the first overtime and had the ball shooting a free-throw. The free-throw missed, and an Alexandria player rebounded the miss and fired a shot down the court that banked in off the glass for a game-tying three-pointer. It was a miracle shot to end all miracle shots, and left a very good Daleville team disappointed, but convinced that it was indeed as good as any team in the state and had taken its program to the highest level of competition.

IN CLOSING...

***It looks like all three Coffee County schools have decided not to have an organized spring football training. The schools have their players lifting weights and doing some running; however, there will be no real spring practice and no jamborees. The times they are a changing. If you like high school baseball and softball, the folks at the Elba Department of Parks and Recreation will be glad to see you, as both Elba and Zion Chapel are playing all their home games at Legion Field, while both school's girls softball teams will be playing at Hawkins-Williams Park. Area fans won't have to drive far to see plenty of prep action.

Elba Department of Parks and Recreation

RECREATION ROUND-UP

Baseball and softball sign-up March 3-14

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation has announced that registration for the upcoming youth baseball and softball leagues will be held from March 3-14, with registration forms to be available to all students in the Elba City School system.

Baseball leagues will include T-Ball, for boys ages 4-6; Coach-Pitch, for boys ages 7-8; Dixie Minor, for boys ages 9-10; Dixie Youth, for boys ages 11-12; Dixie Boys, for boys ages 13-14; Dixie Pre-Majors, for boys ages 15-16; and Dixie Majors, for boys ages 17-18. The registration fee will be \$10 per person, \$17.50 for two members of the same immediate family and \$25 for three members or more of the same immediate family. Fees will be due prior to the issuing of uniforms.

Softball leagues will include T-Ball for girls ages 4-6; Coach-Pitch, for girls ages 7-8; Midget Girls, for girls ages 10 and Under; Junior Girls, for girls ages 12 and Under; and Senior Girls, for girls ages 13-16. The registration fee will be \$10 per person, \$17.50 for two members of the same immediate family and \$25 for three or more members of the same immediate family. Fees will be due prior to the issuing of uniforms. For more information call 897-6833.

Coaches are needed for youth teams

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation is seeking coaches for teams in the upcoming youth baseball and softball leagues. The baseball leagues will include teams for boys ages 4-18, while the girls leagues will be for girls ages 4-16. Coaching applications are available at the Elba Recreation Center, located on N. Claxton Avenue. For more information, call 897-6833.

**SUPPORT YOUTH SPORTS !!!!
BECOME A RECREATION
BOOSTER TODAY !!!!
CALL 897-6833 FOR DETAILS**

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Sports

In District 8 Basketball Tournaments

Elba All-Stars all fall in semifinals

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation entered teams in all three divisions of last weekend's A.R.P.A. District 8 Basketball Tournaments, in Elba, with all three teams being eliminated in semifinal action.

Following are tournament highlights of all three teams:

GIRL'S 10 AND UNDER

The Elba All-Stars drew an opening round bye in the Girl's 10 and Under Tournament, but found the competition a little too tough in the semifinal round as they fell to eventual champion Geneva 26-6.

Elba jumped out to an early 2-0 lead and led 3-2 midway through the opening stanza as Ayonna Proctor lit up the scoreboard; however, Geneva pulled out to a 12-5 lead by the end of the half and pulled away for the 26-6 win.

Scoring for Elba were Ayonna Proctor 5 and Ashley Gibson 1. Also playing for the Elba All-Stars were Lacy Carlisle, Allison Brunson, Kristin Barnes, Alison Smith, Malory Allen, Catina Washington, Lyndsay Lawford, Jessica Sconiers, Katie Dyess and Collette Newsom. The team was coached by Gary Gibson and Greg Brunson.

GIRL'S 12 AND UNDER

The Elba All-Stars opened the tournament with an impressive 26-10 win over Opp, but then failed to find the basket in the semifinals as they fell to eventual champion Geneva 25-5.

The All-Stars jumped out a 13-2 halftime lead over Opp behind the inside scoring of Aubretta Williams and Shay Johnson, but then fell in the semifinals to Geneva 25-5. Geneva owned an 8-0 advantage after one quarter and slowly pulled away to claim the win.

Scoring for Elba were LaGina Mack 3 and Shay Johnson 2. Also playing for Elba were Aubretta Williams 8, LaGina Mack 5, Melissa Kelley 5, Shay Johnson 4, Deann Smith 2 and Annie Jean Daniels 2.

The All-Stars held Geneva to its lowest scoring output of the tournament with an exciting 40-33 win over New Brockton, but then fell in the semifinals to Enterprise 42-22.

The All-Stars fell behind 8-2 early in the win over New Brockton, but rallied behind the play of Michael Sams and Cherelle Edwards to take a 27-22 third quarter advantage, and held on late to claim the win.

Scoring for Elba were Michael Sams 5, Bart Barnes 5, Cherelle Edwards 5, Avrian Stoudemire 4, Jason Curran 2, Dougie Kyles 2 and David Byrd 2. Also playing for Elba in the tournament was Quinton Moultry. The team was coached by Kevin Goosby, Tom Head and Tim Williams.

Both Geneva and Dothan earned the right to advance to the State Tournament, set for March 15-16 in Andalusia.

Following are complete tournament results:

OPENING ROUND:
Geneva 23 Abbeville 10
Dothan 17 Greenville 13
Opp 12 Samson 11

QUARTERFINALS:
Elba 26 Opp 10
Geneva 43 Eufaula 16
Dothan 25 Abbeville 2
New Brockton 28 Greenville 20

SEMIFINALS:
Geneva 25 Elba 5
Dothan 41 New Brockton 11

CHAMPIONSHIP:
Geneva 37 Dothan 24

SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT TRAIL

MARCH 15 - All-Star Sports and Recreation will host a men's softball tournament on Saturday, March 15, at Hawkins-Williams Park, in Elba. The entry fee is \$100 per team, with all teams hitting their own MSP47 softballs. The home-run limit will be 1, unless both teams agree to a higher number. The entry deadline is March 12, and to enter call All-Star Sports and Graphics at 897-5600, or Greg Vick at 347-8059.

MARCH 21-22 - The Enterprise Department of Leisure Services will host a men's Class C & D softball tournament on March 21-22 at Donaldson Park. Entry fee is \$100 and hit your own MSP47 softball. Deadline to enter is 3:00 PM on March 19. Trophies will be given to the top 3 teams. For more information call 334/347-1211, ext.300.

SEMIFINALS:
Geneva 49 Troy 45
Enterprise 42 Elba 22

CHAMPIONSHIP:
Geneva 59 Enterprise 40



WATCHING FREE-THROW ACTION...Elba's Collette Newsom (34) and Lacy Carlisle (1) watch and wait as teammate Ayonna Proctor (with ball) eyes the basket. The Elba 10 and Under Girl's All-Stars were eliminated in the semifinals of the District 8 tournament last weekend by Geneva 26-6, with Proctor leading the scoring with 5 points.

Scoring for Elba were Aubretta Williams 8, LaGina Mack 5, Melissa Kelley 5, Shay Johnson 4, Deann Smith 2 and Annie Jean Daniels 2. The team was coached by Ricky Mularz.

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1 SECTION, 16 PAGES PLUS 1 ADVERT

Elba City Council has variety of items on meeting agenda

By Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council voted Monday night to pay for a "trial run" on the city's insurance rating review, made a hospital board appointment; paid bills; bought a truck; heard that health insurance was going up; a semi-pro football team wants to come to Elba; Alabama Electric wants to feed and talk with council members; rejected bids on flood control pumps; talked about installing speed bumps; starting mosquito spraying; reviewed recreation area rental agreements; bought a used lawnmower; heard Attorney General opinion on working on private property; postponed action on buying a street sweeper and several other items of business.

All members were present and voting.

Police Chief R. W. Whitworth told the council members that the police department logged 14,200 miles patrolling the city during the past month. They made 278 contacts with citizens and made 35 arrests. He reported the COPS program is going strong, as is the DARE program. The DARE officer, Dean Blair, is in Tuscaloosa this week undergoing extensive additional training.

Fire Chief Lloyd Driggers spoke from a prepared statement, informing council members of how the Insurance Services Office (ISO) evaluates the community for fire insurance rates.

Driggers strongly recommended the hiring of an independent inspector prior to asking for an official rating review. He noted unless problems could cause the rating to actually go up, rather than fall. A major

potential problem in Elba is many old 4 inch water supply lines don't deliver the required fire fighting capacity to meet ISO standards. He explained that most of these independent inspectors are retired ISO employees and know what to look for. The cost will be from \$800 to \$1,200.

The council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the chief and pay the cost of the unofficial inspection.

Mayor James Grimes recommended the council appoint Pete Cash to the hospital board, replacing Pete Dorsey who resigned. The council approved the recommendation unanimously.

A letter of resignation from Dorsey indicated his business interests made it impossible for him to continue on the hospital board.

Bids were opened Friday on a new truck for the recreation department. Bids were solicited on a mid-size and a full size pick-up truck. Grimes reported receiving only one bid to compete with the price on the state bid list. Also received was one "no bid".

The council voted to purchase a full size truck, recommended by Mayor Grimes, from the state bid list at a cost of \$13,908. The only other bid on the full size truck was for \$16,260, council member Ben Carpenter opposed the purchase.

The council voted to purchase a used lawn mower from the Elba Country Club. Mayor Grimes said

Recreation Director Ricky Mularz had examined the equipment and thought the \$1,000 cost for mower, which cost \$5,000 in 1990, was fair and the five foot wide cut equipment was needed to keep ballfield grass cut. Again Carpenter voted no.

Council members were given copies of standard rental agreements for the recreation department to use to lease the swimming pool and ball fields for private parties. They approved the continued use of these as written.

Bids received on a new street sweeper were reviewed. Representatives for the two companies which bid were present and the discussion over which was the best bid soon got confusing.

The council voted for the mayor and city clerk to review the bids and report back to the council at the next meeting.

The two bids received were for \$81,983.20 and \$73,906.00 respectively. However, questions about \$6,000 automatic oilers, etc. caused the council to postpone action.

Alabama Electric Co-op President Jim Vann has asked to meet (and eat) with council members and review the activities of the co-op as requested.

Please See CITY, Page 2

NBES dedicates new playground

The New Brockton Elementary School faculty, students, parents and honored guests participated in a Playground Dedication Ceremony on Monday, March 3, 1997.

The playground on the school's campus has recently been completely renovated using funds raised by the New Brockton Elementary School PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization), contributed by the Coffee County Board of Education, and state funds obtained by State Representative Garrett Moore.

Principal Charles Cole commented that he was finally proud to see a proper playground facility provided for the students at NBES.

He noted that it was through the initial efforts by the school's PTO that the project has finally come about. Cole thanked and commended PTO President Cathy Sawyer.

Both Superintendent of Coffee County Schools Roger Bowden and Rep. Moore expressed fond memories of New Brockton schools and commended all involved in the accomplishment of the goal of providing a new, modern playground for NBES students.

Coach Bobby Kinsaul noted that the new playground equipment is much safer than what was being used. It will also provide a better tool to be used in the physical education of the students.

The total cost of the project was approximately \$16,000.00. During the ceremony, special music was provided by the NBES Chorus and the NBES Chorus. Winners of the Playground Poem Contest and ribbon cutting ceremony.



PLAYGROUND DEDICATION... Pictured above participating in the ribbon cutting ceremony are (l-r): Cathy Sawyer, PTO President; Linda Estrada, PTO member; Charles Cole, NBES principal; Carol Eubanks, PTO member; Bobby Kinsaul, PE teacher; Roger Bowden, superintendent of Coffee County Schools; Little Miss New Brockton, Toni Stone; Ben Amstrong, member of the Coffee County BOE; Charles Walker, chairman of the Coffee County BOE; Joyce Barksdale, member of the Coffee County BOE; and Garrett Moore, Alabama State Representative.

The total cost of the project was approximately \$16,000.00. During the ceremony, special music was provided by the NBES Chorus and the NBES Chorus. Winners of the Playground Poem Contest and ribbon cutting ceremony.

Wendy Heaslip, Renita Lawson, and Brandy Mitchell. To officially open the playground, dignitaries joined Little Miss New Brockton Toni Stone in a ribbon cutting ceremony.



VISITS TO ER MADE A LITTLE EASIER... To make a visit to the emergency room and/or hospital a "little less painful" for youngsters, the Coffee County Sheriff's Department donated coloring books and crayons to Elba General Hospital. Not only will it help "take their mind off their boo-boo," it also contains messages of the importance of being drug-free. Pictured above making the presentation to hospital administrator Ellen Briley (center) is Coffee County Sheriff Ben Moates (right) as ER Nurse Sue Sasser, RN looks on.

* * HAPPENINGS * *

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION. Kindergarten registration for the 1997-98 school year will be held at Elba Elementary School on Friday, March 21, 1997, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ANNUAL FIELD DAY. The Elba Youth Training Center's 3rd Annual Field Day will be held on Saturday, March 22, 1997, starting at 8:00 a.m. This event will take place at the old Mulberry High School in Elba, AL. All children are urged to participate in this activity.

RELAY FOR LIFE. Teams are now being signed up for the 1997 Coffee County Relay For Life. The event is to raise funds for the fight against cancer. For more information call David at 347-4247.

Please See CCC, Page 2

Meet Your Elba Police Officers

By Marvin McLwain, Editor

Monday's meeting of the Coffee County Commission began on a bid opening. Commissioners, and others present, paused in a moment of silence in honor of Stephen DeVane, who passed away suddenly last week.

Commissioner Robert Stephens noted that DeVane had given 43 years of service to Coffee County. He was a long-time employee of the

Coffee County Highway Department. The majority of the commission's meeting agenda consisted of bid openings. Commissioners opened bids received on garbage collection and motorgrader blades for the highway department. The opening of bids on undercarriage repair on two bulldozers was postponed.

Three bids were received on the collection of garbage from county residents. The bids were based on a review

of the road. He said that when it rains, the road is impassable or very dangerous to travel and he is concerned about his elderly mother, and other elderly persons, who have to travel the road.

According to Estes, there are nine homes located on the road - all occupied by elderly persons.

Estes also told commissioners that almost every time the county grades the road, the telephone lines are severed, leaving those living on the road without phone service for one or two days.

He expressed his concern for the welfare of those persons living on the road when their phone service becomes interrupted.

"I am saying nicely," said Estes, "Please help me get something done."

Commissioner Doug Dalrymple



BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

The cloning issue is apparently not confined to sheep. After the announcement from England of the sheep cloning, we began hearing reports and seeing pictures of monkey cloning and one otherwise unconfirmed report of a four-year-old human clone. None of that bothers us from a medical, ethical nor religious point. What does show potential for monster making is the report (with pictures) of a baby chick with some transplanted brain cells from a quail. Reportedly, a chick with cells from a particular part of the quail brain has certain quail traits. Chicks with cells from another part of the quail brain have other traits. What will be the ethical and/or legal status of some animal (any animal) with implanted brain cells from a human? We see nothing right now to stop some curious experimenter from taking a few brain cells from a recently expired human, either adult or child, and "experimenting" by implanting them into an animal embryo and creating an animal with a few, or many, human traits.

Often positive actions by the Elba City Council people go unheralded, because it is easier to find fault. Today we pass out a few salutes. John W. Sharpless has served almost nine years on the SE Alabama Gas Board. The position has its perks, but even then many of us don't want the boiler. He continues to serve and his fellow board members had enough respect to name him president last year. These folks handle millions of dollars and a blink at the wrong time could cost millions. Salute!

The council members Monday night frowned on changing schedules to give some departments Friday afternoons off. This will hurt some feelings, but we agree with Councilman Ronnie Hammond that the change would cost the taxpayers extra money in overtime. Salute!

The appointment of Pete Cash to the hospital board was a unanimous decision. This board is seldom in the spotlight, partially due to the nature of its duties but also due to some special laws making their decisions less public. The appointment of this "young blood" is to be commended. It is important that a younger generation gets experience in doing what would be forced on them by necessity in a few years. Cash has demonstrated with his business dealings that he is money savvy and that is a large part of the hospital board's business. He has also demonstrated his faith in Elba by staking his future heavily in the community. For this appointment, we also say Salute!

Attorney Jeff Kelley called Thursday to explain that the lawsuit on the jury selection was not thrown out on a technical point as we wrote last week. He said the judge ruled, but narrowly. Kelley expects this new suit to clear up the jury matter, both in civil cases and in criminal matters, and end everyone's concern, whichever way the judge rules. OK with us.

The Lincoln bedroom in the White House isn't for sale... President Clinton said so. However, a look at the Washington D.C. guest list indicates the prominent bedroom goes for a mighty high rent factor! Those described as "old friends" sometimes are not really known personally by Mr. Clinton, but do make big donations, etc. to the Democratic Party. It looks bad, and even worse the more they explain it away.

Vice President Al Gore has been the heir apparent for the Democrat Party. However, he has seriously wounded his chances for election recently as he brushed off charges of his money raising activities. What ever he intended, many people were offended when he appeared to say, "yes, I did it, so what... I did it for you." Fifty years ago Jim Folsom was able to use that to his advantage. However this is not 50 years ago and Al Gore does not have our late Governor James Folsom's ability to charm the multitudes on a regular basis.

CCC (Continued from Page One)

commission offices. Cost of the generator is estimated to be approximately \$25,000.00.

Conditions of the grant calls for the EMA/county to provide 25 percent of the cost of the generator. Commissioner Linda Westbrook requested that the Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission be given the authority to apply for any available grants on extending rural water systems.

She asked that these applications be made in reference to any water system within the county that may qualify for the grants if they are available.

Commissioner agreed unanimously with Westbrook's request. Other items of business acted on by the commission were as follows:

***Approved a proclamation commending John Flowers for his

service to Coffee County as supervisor of the maintenance department. John will be retiring at the end of March.

***Voted to leave to the discretion of the county engineer as to when work for municipalities and schools can be performed - not to exceed 1/2 day.

***Moved the time for "discretionary" administrative meetings from Fridays to Thursdays preceding the bi-monthly meeting of the commission on the second and fourth Monday's of each month.

***Appointed Billy Helms to a six-year term on the Bethany Water Authority.

***Appointed Melvin Nelson to a six-year term on the Mt. Pleasant-Battens Crossroads Water Authority.

***Requested that appropriate authorities look into illegal dumping on Co. Rd. 655.



LIONS UPDATED... During a recent meeting, Elba Mayor James Grimes gave the Elba Lions Club an update on the ALERT (Automated Local Evaluation of Real Time) Flood Warning System. The system was dedicated in January and the mayor reported that it is up and running. Mayor Grimes also informed the group that bids had been received on the emergency flood pumps and the contract should be awarded in the near future. Picture above are (l-r): Lion Rex Boutwell, Mayor James Grimes and Lion Hubert Gilbert.

CITY (Continued from Page One)

well as the direction the industry is going in light of deregulation. A Monday date will be recommended to Vann.

Casey Reedy and Bryan Walls appeared before the council with an idea of an anti-pro football team coming to Elba. They wanted to know the attitude of the city on such a project.

Reedy played high school ball at Elba High and noted the strong support for football in Elba. He said this project could expand access of Elba people to something already loved by a large number of the citizens.

Reedy also played with the Dothan Chiefs during their short tenure as a semi-pro ball team.

The council members felt the old football field could be used, even though children use it on Saturdays. Mulazir reminded them that there are no shower or dressing facilities at the ball field, but that the recreation department is already keeping the field up and their use wouldn't be any additional work. The two are to work with Mulazir on the details of their venture.

Mayor Grimes asked the two to come back with more firm details before the city made an official decision.

Semi-pro football is a year or two off, at best, Walls explained to the council. They first should know if the city fathers were supportive.

The city's hospital insurance cost will rise, according to Grimes. He said Blue Cross/Blue Shield is paying more in claims than Elba is paying in premiums. As the policy is presently written, the cost will increase by \$19,687 annually, of which the city pays 65%.

Under the increase, an individual policy will increase from \$177 a month to \$203 while a family plan will increase from \$422 to \$488 per month.

The council accepted Grimes' offer to meet with Blue Cross officials and review the alternatives. He observed it might be beneficial to increase the deductible on the major medical portion of the policy.

Grimes will report back to the council with his new information. Monthly bills totaling \$32,065.00 were approved for payment. This included \$13,512.68 to the volunteer fire department.

City Clerk Donnie Morrow reported receiving a request for speed bumps to be installed in Brookdale. This will be studied as will a request by council member Winzell Gray that other areas also be reviewed for these speed controls.

Grimes read to the council an attorney General opinion dealing with working on private property.

It indicated it is legal to go onto private property to control, divert or otherwise deal with run-off water from the streets, providing the city has owner permission and/or a written easement.

The council also approved a resolution allowing the Elba school system to administer the Summer Feeding Program again this year.

An offer to collect insurance premium taxes was tabled for further study at the recommendation of the mayor.

The council rejected all bids on the flood control pumps and installation project. The cost, at \$531,927.00, far exceeded the available funds.

The council and engineering firm agreed to scale down the pump size from 35,000 per minute to 17,000 gallon per minute.

Council members were told this would handle a one hour rain at the rate of four inches per hour.

He noted the city could possibly go back and add additional pumps later if funds became available.

Grimes read a letter from the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) concerning a recent sewer lagoon inspection. According to the letter, there were no deficiencies noted and the city was congratulated.

Grimes said he had personally

ELBA POLICE REPORT

MARCH 3 Thru MARCH 9, 1997

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, March 3, 1997, investigated the following incidents: one burglary, one unlawful possession of marijuana, one VPL, one criminal trespass, two recoveries of marijuana, three thefts of property, one harassment, one assault, one harassing communication, and one cat attack.

Arrests were as follows: two for assault and one for theft of property.

Traffic citations issued were as follows: eight for speeding, one for no driver's license, and one for going the wrong way on a one-way street.

Daily activity highlights were as follows:

MONDAY, MARCH 3 - River stage - 8.55 feet (6:46 a.m.); Alarm at a residence on Claxton Ave. (7:57 a.m.); Burglary reported at a residence on Wayne Street (8:33 a.m.).

TUESDAY, MARCH 4 - River stage - 8.96 feet (6:38 a.m.); Minor wreck reported in the parking lot at Elba Elementary School (7:48 a.m.); Rescue run to a residence on Carver Dr. (11:53 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5 - River stage - 7.67 feet (6:28 a.m.); Routine activity.

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following persons admitted during the time period of March 4, 1997 through March 10, 1997.

They were: Agnes Ingram, Melissa Hughes, Richenna Singletary, Robert Whitley, Jr., Gene Culver, Evelyn Brown, Gladys Mincey, Hattie White, Marvin Lindsey, Dorothy Hermsmeider, Sedan Edwards, Mary Brooks, Veneria Boutwell, Eleanor Adkinson, and Annie Marler.

Patients discharged during the same period of time were: J. B. Thrasher, Rebecca Chandler, Frank Phillips, Nicholas Green, Leslie Compton, Annie Campbell, Bill Whittenton, Laymon Ware, Coy Nelson, Barbara Rhoades, Gene Culver, Richenna Singletary, Agnes Ingram, Mavis Beckworth, Hattie White, Dorothy Hermsmeider, Marvin Lindsey, Ashley Parrish, Melissa Hughes, and Robert Whitley, Jr.

This space made possible by National Insurance Co.

Bulletin Board

S.S. REP. - Courthouse, 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30. Call FREE 1-800-772-1213.

ROYALTY CLUB - Tuesday @ Noon - First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.

ELBA MINISTRIES ASSN. - Tues. 6:00 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

ELBA CITY COUNCIL - 2nd & 4th Monday - 6:00 p.m. City Hall.

WATER & ELECTRIC - Tuesday following 3rd Monday - 6:00 p.m. City Hall.

COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Monday of each month - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton.

LIONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizens Center.

ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD - 1st Thurs. - 5:30 p.m. - Supp. Office.

AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Thurs. - 7:30 p.m. - Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.

RESCUE SQUAD - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 7:00 p.m. - Rescue Squad Building.

MASONIC LODGE 178 1st & 3rd Monday of each month - 7 p.m.

BAND BOOSTERS 1st M. - 7 p.m. - Band Room @ Elba High School.

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER - Mon-Fri. 8:12 noon & 12:30-4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 894-5811.

COFFEE COUNTY CO-OPERATIVES - 2nd, 3rd Tues. 7 p.m. - Club House.

COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN 3rd Wednes. - Colony Inn, Enterprise.

AIRPORT AUTHORITY - Tuesdays - 12 Noon - City Hall Conference Room.

SARP Meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month.

CIVIL AIR PATROL - Every Monday 7:00 p.m. - Elba Airport-Deeroll hangar.

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COMMUNITY SPIRIT DAY WINNERS - The Elba Chamber of Commerce and the City of Elba held Community Spirit Day on Saturday, March 1, 1997. There was a great turn-out of concerned citizens desiring to clean up the community. A special group of young adults and children, led by Joyce Coleman and Ronnie Hammond, led the clean-up effort with the help of trash collectors. They were given the \$100 bill as first prize. They were so excited and stated they were going to have a pizza party with their reward. They also stated that they would be asking their friends not to litter and would be looking forward to the next town-wide and would ask all their friends to help. Thank you Elba for all you do to make this community a great place to live. This is truly a "Small Town with a Big Heart."

We get letters.....

Open Letter to the Editor:

History Buffs: I am collecting grave rubbings of Confederate soldiers who died (battled or hospitalized), 1861-1865. I plan to give my collection to the White House of the Confederacy, Richmond, Virginia. These grave rubbings are a permanent history record and outlast the original gravestone. Many gravestones already are lost, fragmented or illegible.

I already have many grave rubbings of gravestones now missing, fragmented or illegible.

I feel strongly that my permanent records of our fallen heroes are more important than some of the repetitive "history" being published currently in the many War Between the States magazines.

I plan to visit your locale in early May 1997. I am interested in any 1861-1865 CSA graves in your area, directions and permission (if on private property) to visit same. The grave rubbing process does no harm to the gravestone and often the rubbing reveals what is inscribed on an illegible gravestone.

E.H. Rucker Jr., M.D.
P.O. Box 2416
Newport News, VA 23609

To the Editor:

To all the people in Elba and the surrounding area, there is a new outreach ministry in Elba at 836 Troy Highway that helps the needy with food, clothing, and over-night shelter. It is called the True Gospel Chapel. Church services are on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and Thursday at 6:00 p.m. We have gospel singings, revivals, fellowship, and lots of love to offer the public. It is also a place just to hang around if you need to talk or need some special attention. We always have some refreshments on hand.

This spring and summer we will be having cook-outs, trips to various places, picnics and whatever the Lord lets us do. So we invite the public to come out and take a look. We are taking donations of food, clothing, and cash to keep our ministry going.

We thank you and God bless. For more information call 897-5964 after 6:00 a.m. or come by our place after 10:00 a.m. at 836 Troy Hwy. Jean McAllister

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Children coping with disaster

by Connie Brown, staff writer

Children are unique individuals, who depend on routines in their daily lives.

Typically, a child wakes up, eats breakfast, goes to school or plays with friends.

So what happens when a child's "routine" is interrupted by a tragedy or disaster?

Generally, a child becomes very upset with changes. In emergency, young children will look up to adults for help, and how the adult reacts will mirror how the child acts.

For example, if an adult shows alarm or fear, the child will become scared. Children see our fear as concrete proof that the danger is real.

If a child sees a parent or significant adult role model overcome with grief or loss, a child is apt to feel a greater loss.

Many times a child's imagination may take over and create feelings of extreme fear or insecurity. It is at these times the adult involved should take action and take the situation seriously.

Feelings of fear are natural for all human beings, but adults need to stay in control for the well being of children.

When dealing with situations such as natural disasters, the adult should stay calm, and never allow a child to know that he is present.

When the danger has passed, focus on the child's emotional needs. Ask questions such as what they may be thinking. Always assure the child they are loved.

Keep in mind, after a tragedy occurs, children are afraid that the disaster will happen again, or someone close to them will be hurt or killed. Children often have feelings that they will be separated from other family members, or they will be left alone.

Disasters happen fast and sometimes without much warning, if any at all.

A disaster could mean the loss of a home as a child knows it, which is a disruption of the daily "routine." Adults need to be prepared to act in a way that will aid children in coping.

To prepare in advance for disasters, have a plan and practice sessions frequently. Children should be given specific tasks to carry out during recovery efforts.

Teach children how to recognize danger signals. It is important that children know how smoke detectors, fire alarms, and local community warning systems work.

On the same token, children need to know how and when to call for help. Teach children how to use the 9-1-1 system. Make sure the child knows his or her address and telephone number.

As with any other emergency plan, have a pre-designated meeting place for family members, in the case of separation.

If a child isn't old enough to read, make a phone chart using symbols that are easily recognizable.

Last, but not least, in an emergency situation get down on the child's level and explain calmly, but firmly, what is going on.

In the event a child does not respond and come to the realization that life will eventually return to normal, seek help from a pastor, or a mental health specialist.

More information on children coping with disasters can be obtained from FEMA: P.O. Box 70724; Washington, DC 20024.

"I CAN HARDLY WAIT FOR THE ELBA CLIPPER!" Pictured above is Playdough, pet cat of Judith (Brunson) and Wilbur Bullock of Hattisburg, Mississippi, reading The Elba Clipper.



"I CAN HARDLY WAIT FOR THE ELBA CLIPPER!" Pictured above is Playdough, pet cat of Judith (Brunson) and Wilbur Bullock of Hattisburg, Mississippi, reading The Elba Clipper.

AREA DEATHS

Disabled persons outreach program to meet

WILLIE FRANK TERRY - Willie Frank Terry, age 70 of Elba, Alabama, died Saturday, March 1, 1997.

Funeral services were held at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, March 6, 1997 from the Coleman Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. V.J. Coleman officiating. Virgil Coleman Mortuary directed the service.

Survivors include his wife, Clara B. Terry of Elba, AL; his mother and father, Nadine W. Terry of New Brockton, AL and Sam Terry of Birmingham, AL; a brother, Edward Terry of Birmingham, AL; 6 children and 6 step-children, Ronald Terry of Arion, AL, Samuel Terry of Columbus, Georgia, Olivia Terry of Elizabeth, New Jersey, Willie L. Terry of Brundidge, AL, Sheila Terry of New Brockton, AL, Adrain Terry of Enterprise, AL, Jacqueline, Cynthia, Shirley, Wanda, Benjamin, and Freddie, an aunt and uncle, Ben and Hester McGowan of New Brockton, AL; three great

aunts and one great uncle; four daughters-in-law; one son-in-law; 16 grandchildren; two great grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

LOUIS EDWARD KELLEY - Louis Edward Kelley, age 50 of Elba, Alabama, died Wednesday, March 5, 1997.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, March 8, 1997 from the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church of Elba, AL with Rev. J.R. Parks officiating. Call Don at (334) 222-9243.

The guest speaker for the March 31 meeting will be Rachael Holmes of the governor's ADA office, and a spaghetti dinner is planned.

Social & Community News

Thorsrud renewal of vows planned for March 22



Mr. & Mrs. Thorsrud

Mr. and Mrs. Mickey and Ineta Parker of Jack, AL, announce the renewal of vows by their daughter and son-in-law, Donna Michelle Parker-Thorsrud and Captain Derek Ronald Thorsrud. He is the son of Mr. Ronald Thorsrud of Twin Valley, MN and Ms. Linda Anderson of Minneapolis, MN.

The bride is the granddaughter of Lloyd and Peggy Eddins of Jack, AL and the late Virgil Parker. She is a 1989 graduate of Zion Chapel High School and a 1994 graduate of Troy State University. She is employed with Wiregrass Hospice.

The groom is the grandson of Ruth Thorsrud of Twin Valley, MN. He is a 1986 graduate of Twin Valley High School and a 1991 graduate of North Dakota State University. He is employed with the U.S. Army.

The ceremony will be held at 3:00 p.m., March 22, 1997 at Jack Assembly of God Church of Jack, AL.

All relatives and friends are invited to attend.

Mrs. Doris Taylor speaks to AARP

Mrs. Doris Taylor gave an informative and interesting history of the Elba City Library at the AARP meeting held recently. She also gave interesting facts concerning the different locations of the library, the number of books, publications, tapes, videos, and other services.

Charles Kennett, president, presided over the business meeting. The third Tuesday in each month is the regular meeting date. Others are invited to join.



New Arrivals

RAGIN ELIZABETH BERRY

Ginny and Kim Berry of Enterprise, AL, proudly announce the birth of their daughter, Ragin Elizabeth Berry. Ragin was born Sunday, February 23, 1997 at 3:46 p.m. in Flowers Hospital. She weighed 7 lbs. 7 oz. and was 20 1/2 inches long.

Proud grandparents are Lynda and Harold Berry of Elba, AL and Debbie and Larry Walters of Enterprise, AL.



Austin & Chance Johnson

CHANCE LEE JOHNSON

Austin Glen Johnson of Elba, AL, announces the birth of his little brother, Chance Lee. Chance was born January 23, 1997 and weighed 8 lbs. 8 oz. and was 21 1/4 inches long. His parents are Glen and Kerry Johnson of Elba. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Johnson of Elba and Mr. and Mrs. Dwight D. Kessner of Marianna, FL. Great-grandmothers are Mrs. Mildred Kessner of Abbeville and Mrs. Norma Kessner of Enterprise.

She attended Troy State University and worked with the State of Florida in law enforcement for five years prior to moving to Collierville, Tenn.

Brenda is departmental secretary for adults at Germantown, Tenn. Baptist Church and secretary/treasurer for Collierville Choral Booster Club. Her husband, John, is territory manager for Batesville Casket Company.

The Foremans have two children: Jay, who lives in Panama City Beach, Fla., and Leigh, 18, a senior at Collierville High School.

March 8th was the day for "The Gathering"

Saturday afternoon, March 8, was the day of "The Gathering," an afternoon get-together of a group of former Elba High School students whose friendship dates back to their high school days of the mid 1940s. The idea of the gathering of "The Old Gang" originated with Paul L. English who is a 1947 EHS graduate. The afternoon was reminiscent of high school days when, during and after World War II, cars were scarce and gasoline supplies limited, and these friends spent many afternoons and evenings at impromptu parties at various students' homes.

After high school graduates of 1947, 1948, and 1949, these students, whose lives had been so closely connected, drifted apart to attend college, work in other areas, or enter military service. The groups, hosted by Wilbur and Judith Brunson Bullock (Huntsburg, MS), the old John Brunson home. The old house was "brought back to life" by colorful spring flowers, recorded music of the 40s, delicious food, the voices, laughter, and even a few tears shed by the group of old friends during the bright spring afternoon.

The day's festivities continued Saturday night at a dinner party at the home of Bill and Carolyn Vaughan Stokes on Sunset Boulevard. Other local graduates, J. Doug and Genevieve Kennedy, and Helen Rainer assisted with both parties.

Those attending (an asterisk denotes those who were members of the original group of friends) were: Thomas and *Maragene Whitmire (Mobile); Wilbur and *Judith Brunson Bullock (Huntsburg, MS); *Paul and Marianne Hughes English (Cottontale); *Jimmie and Mary Charles Walker (Dorhan); *Ann Dunsaway Gamblin (Montgomery); *L. Doug and *Genevieve Fleming Kendrick (Elba); *Jake Lubert and *Sammie Blue Morrow (Elba); *Johnnie and *Wayne King Pace (Auburn); *Helen Braswell Fainer and Harry Bullard (Elba); *Billy Rowe (Birmingham); and Bill and *Carolyn Vaughan Stokes (Elba).



The Group

Plans being made for Coffee County Junior Miss

The Coffee County Junior Miss program will be held July 12, 1997. The Coffee County Junior Miss program is part of a nationwide endeavor to honor and reward the county's outstanding high school girls for their achievements, according to Connie Harellson at 393-0558. Vonda Cotter at 347-2002 or Linda Miller Page at 347-0896.

In addition to winning a scholarship, the young woman selected to be Coffee County's Junior Miss earns the right to participate in the Alabama Junior Miss Program in January in Montgomery. In the state program, she will compete for the opportunity to represent Alabama in the America's Junior Miss National Finals in Mobile, AL.

Some of the members of the board of directors and the 1997 Coffee County Junior Miss, Sharon Conington, will be visiting high schools

Shannon Smith Vickery accepted to UAB School of Dentistry

Shannon Smith Vickery, a 1993 graduate of Smiths Station High School, was recently accepted by the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry. Approximately 700 applications for admission were received by the school from across the country, and 150 of those who applied were offered interviews at the school. Of those interviewed, only 55 students were selected to be members of the

freshman dental class for the following year. Shannon will be one of those 55 beginning the four year dental education program in August of this year.

Shannon is currently a senior at Samford University in Birmingham. She will graduate in May with a bachelor's degree in biology.

Shannon and her husband, Ken, live in Birmingham. She is the daughter of Glenn and Janice Smith of Smiths, AL, and the granddaughter of Virginia Windham of Elba, AL.

Growing Roses at Your House to be presented by the Wiregrass Rose Society

Dothan Nurseries and the Wiregrass Rose Society will present "Growing Roses at Your House" on Saturday, March 15, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. at Dothan Nurseries. There will be free educational materials for interested persons. Refreshments will be served. Reservations are not required for attendance; however, please call (334)794-6774 for reserved seating. No admission will be charged; however, donations can be made to the Dothan Botanical Rose Garden.

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Johnny and Michelle Fortune to be at Battsens Praise and Worship Center

The evangelist Johnny Fortune and his wife, Michelle, are leading renewal services at Battsens Praise and Worship Center in Enterprise through Friday, March 14, services begin each night at 7:00 p.m.

Battsens Praise and Worship Center is located on Alabama Highway 27 south (Geneva Highway). The church is located at the flashing yellow light at Battsens Crossroads.

For more information call the church at 347-2319.

Danley's Cross Roads Cemetery meeting planned

The annual business meeting of the Danley's Cross Roads Cemetery Board of Directors will be held on March 23, Rev. Roy D. Creamer, District Secretary/Treasurer will be the morning speaker. Lunch will be served following the morning service. There will be both congregational and special singing at 2:00 p.m.

The church is located in Level Plains on old Hwy. 134.

Computer Class to be offered at ESJC-Ft. Rucker

Dr. Sue Baum, Chairperson of the Computer and Information Science Division at Enterprise State Junior College announced the addition of a special computer course to be offered this spring quarter at the Fort Rucker Campus. Microsoft Office will be offered on Saturdays, May 3 through June 7, 8:00 a.m. until noon in Building 5013. Registration for spring quarter is now open. For more information about the course, call Dr. Baum at 334-393-ESJC, ext. 260.

The Marksmen to be at Shepherds Fold Church of God

The singing group The Marksmen of Church of God, Friday, March 14, at 7:00 p.m.

Over a period of thirty years, The Marksmen have evolved into one of the top bluegrass gospel groups in the nation.

In 1996 C.C.M.R. Magazine named them the Southern Country Group of the Year.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Pain may be eliminated for millions
(SPECIAL)--A drug that is exciting researchers in the treatment of pain has been formulated into a new product known as "Arthur Itis," and is being called a "Medical Miracle" by some, in the treatment of debilitating conditions such as arthritis, bursitis, rheumatism, painful muscle aches, joint aches, simple backache, bruises, and more. Although the mechanism of action is unclear, experiments indicate that Arthur Itis, relieving pain by first selectively attracting, and then destroying the messenger chemical which carries pain sensations to the brain, thus eliminating pain in the affected area. Arthur Itis, is available immediately without a prescription in an odorless, greaseless, non-staining cream or new easy applicator liquid form. Arthur Itis, is guaranteed to work or your money back.

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PASTOR'S CORNER

Rev. W. L. Peterson
The Greater New Zion Baptist Church

The Tongue

I remember growing up as a child my grandparents would often use the expression, "You better watch your tongue." It was true then and it is true now.

One of the most dangerous things in the world is the tongue. It can shoot more accurate, hit more people, do more damage than any bullet can ever do. In order for a bullet to hit you, you must be in its sight but the tongue can hit you without ever seeing you. It can shoot in Alabama and kill in New York. The tongue has caused homes to break up, friends to become enemies, and families to stop speaking to one another.

James tells us in his book the third chapter that "The tongue is a little member and boasts great things. Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth." He described the tongue as a fire, so much so until it defileth the whole body. Isn't it funny how we have learned how to control and tame most everything we have come in contact with, but the tongue, James said, "No man can tame it. Its unruly evil full of deadly poison, out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing, my brethren these things ought not so to be."

It is impossible without Christ. When Jesus is invited into a person's life He not only cleans their heart up, He also cleans up the tongue. I have heard of what they called "cursing christian." My brothers and sisters there is no such thing. The tongue us a world of iniquity, but God can clean it up. When God cleans it up, you can say like my grandparents, "If you don't have anything good to say about people, don't say anything."

Submit yourselves therefore to God and He will draw nigh to you, humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord and He shall lift you up.

The tongue can be tamed.

MUSTARD SEED FOUNDATION NEWS

There will be a gospel singing at the Mustard Seed Foundation Church on Saturday, March 15, 1997 beginning at 7:00 p.m. The featured singers will be the Singing Oaks Family of Seale, AL. The church is located on Coffee County Road #211 in the Victoria Community.

The foundation is located in the Victoria Community on Coffee County Road #211. For more information call 897-6647 or 735-2453.

Enterprise Church of God to present "The Power of His Last Words"

Easter Sunday morning, March 30, you are invited to witness "The Power of His Last Words," a drama, to be presented at the Enterprise Church of God. Services begin at 10:45 a.m. The church is located at 1303 East Park Avenue in Enterprise.

A Marriage Enrichment Seminar will be held at Holloway Tabernacle on Friday, March 14, 1997 at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 16, 1997 at 9:30 a.m. Those wishing to participate are asked to register by April 25, 1997 for \$20.00 per couple. For more information call (334) 393-3609.

MARCH
pick the rose

Church Directory

IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN.

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY - J. E. Wells
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sun. Evening 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Serv. 6:00 p.m.

ELBA DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE - Jimmy Porter
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sun. Evening 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Serv. 6:00 p.m.

ALBERTSON BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sun. Evening 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Serv. 6:00 p.m.

BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH - Milton Harrington
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sun. Evening 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Serv. 6:00 p.m.

ELITE SPRINGS BAPTIST - Eddie Bass
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sun. Evening 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Serv. 6:00 p.m.

ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Marvin Ennis
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sun. Evening 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Serv. 6:00 p.m.

ELBA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Rev. Robert Paul
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Morn. Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sun. Evening 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Serv. 6:00 p.m.

MARTIN'S INC.

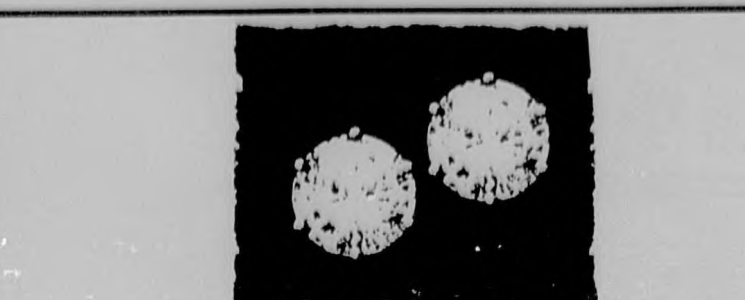
Elba, AL 897-2236

New Group	Denim	New Item In Store
DENIM	LORD ISAACS	PRODUCE COMPANY
SUNNY SPORT	SLACKS	Casual Group For Women

MEN'S FALL SHIRTS

1/2 Price

All Sales Cash, Check, or Credit Card



Hearing aids
Give her these, and suddenly she listens with fascination to everything you say!!

The Jewel Box

328 Simmons Street 897-2296 Elba, AL

NOW IS THE TIME TO PLANT ALL YOUR TREES! Come by & let us help you with your selections at FAY'S NURSERY

LANDSCAPING & LAWN CARE

Pecan Trees, Pomegranates, Apple Trees, Pink & White Flowering Cherries, Peach, Red & Silver Maple, Crepe Myrtle, Nectarines, Persimmon Trees, Fig, Grape, Red & White Dogwoods, Scuppermons, Japanese Magnolias, Plum Trees, Tulip, Poplars...Many varieties.

We also have Flowering Bradford Pears Starting at \$8 Each 2 1/3" MAHON PECAN TREES-\$5 Ea. or 5/520 10" HANGING BASKET FERNS-\$5, \$8 & \$10

Complete Lawn Service

Open 8:00 - 5:30 Mon. - Sat Sun. 1:00 - 5:00

Complete Lawn Service 897-2078

"Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy"

WORSHIP AT THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH C. Turner Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 7:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Serv. 6:00 p.m.	WOODLAND GROVE BAPTIST Sharon Wooten Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Serv. 6:00 p.m.
NEW PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST Lorelei Flowers Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Wed. Prayer Serv. 6:00 p.m.	WOOTEN CHAPEL ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH - Mike Madley Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Serv. 6:00 p.m.
ROCKY HEAD M.R. CHURCH A. J. Williams Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:30 a.m. Wed. Prayer Serv. 6:00 p.m.	ZION CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH - Raymond Miller Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m.
ROTON BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.	ZION COMMUNITY CHURCH Nathia Johnson Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m. Thursday Serv. 7:00 p.m.
SHADY GROVE AME Rev. F. L. Flowers Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Prayer Service Mon. 6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study 6:00 p.m.	SILHOL BAPTIST CHURCH Campbell Sasser Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 7:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.
VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH Ben Ambling Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m.	WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH Tony Dye Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Morn. Worship 10:00 a.m. Even. Service 5:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting Wed. 7:00 p.m.
WHITEWATER BAPTIST CHURCH - Danny Maddox Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.	WISE MILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD - Kenneth Hagler Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morn. Service 11:00 a.m. Wed. Prayer Serv. 7:00 p.m.

These church listings are sponsored by:
Whitman Drug Co., Dorsey Trailers, SouthTrust Bank & The Elba Clipper

CCAA to present Eleanor: A Celebration on March 22

Mary Jon Sneckenberger, president of the Coffee County Arts Alliance has announced it is sponsoring a special showing for a brilliant new one-woman play, *Eleanor: A Celebration*. The play was especially written to celebrate the one-hundredth birthday of Eleanor Roosevelt and in response to excited critical reviews and standup audience ovations has continued making annual national tours.

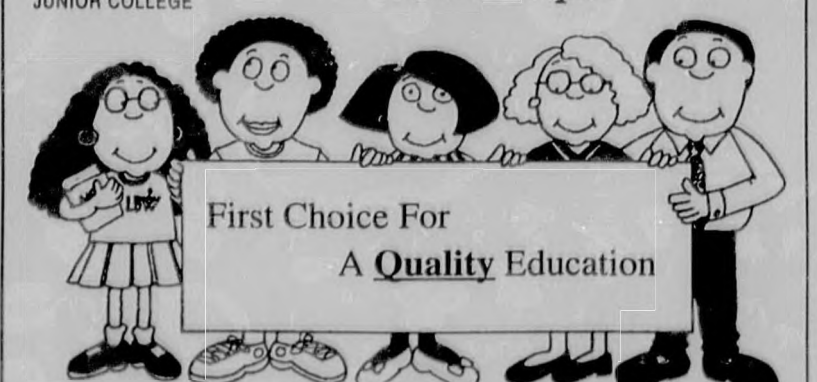
The play stars Toni Gillman, a veteran New York and Hollywood actress, who worked with Mrs. Roosevelt in 1957 in a series of ABC television shows.

It will be presented at the Elba High School auditorium, Hwy. 84W., on Saturday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be on sale

Deadline for
Social News to go
in
THE ELBA CLIPPER
is MONDAY!!!!

SPRING REGISTRATION

Andalusia & Greenville Campuses
March 31
8 am - 7 pm



First Choice For
A Quality Education

Classes Begin April 1
Late Registration (Drop/Add Period) April 1 - 7
Lurleen B. Wallace Jr. College

Andalusia 222-6591/Greenville 382-2133 (ext. 3101)

SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

Have you recently been denied your Social Security Benefits?

PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE FOR ASSISTANCE

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DAVIS, DORIN, CURTIS & NEIL, P. C.

Alabama State Bar Rules Require The Following At All Attorney Ads: "No Representation Is Made That The Quality Of The Legal Services To Be Performed Is Greater Than The Quality Of Legal Services Performed By Other Lawyers."

JR. MISS ELBALA 1997



Pictured above are (l-r): Cammie Kelley, 2nd runner up; Jr. Miss Elbala Vaughan Boyd; and Valerie Moore, 1st runner up.

Our Source Of Safety

by D'Undray Peterson

Before heading into battle, the soldier checks and rechecks his weapon to make sure it is working smoothly.

The police officer dons his tactical vest and helmet and lifts his ballistic shield as he approaches a house on a drug raid.

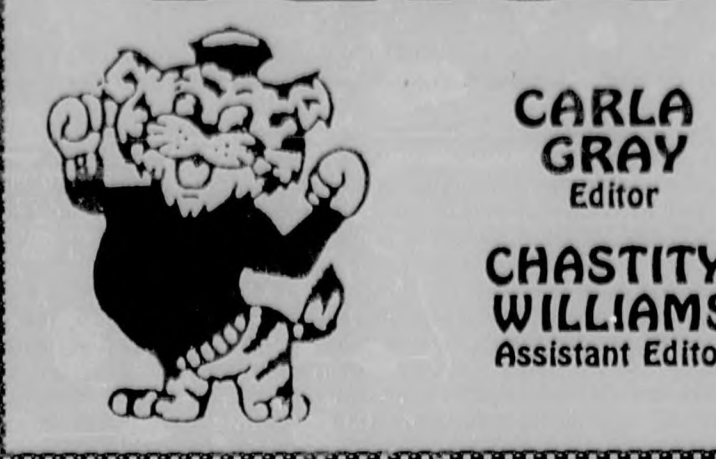
The only believer on the women's basketball team knows she's going to be the object of rough treatment after she has spoken out for the Lord. She prepares for the persecution by spending time with the Lord. Why? She knows that her security is in God.

This young believer has learned what

David learned long ago. He wrote Psalm 57 while hiding in a cave from the murderous King Saul. David knew that his security was not in the cave, nor in his coming, but in God. That's why he wrote: "In the shadow of your wings I will make my refuge." (v.1). He felt secure (v.7), and he would sing God's praise when it was all over. (v.9).

When we are faced with opposition, we sometimes try to manipulate people or arrange circumstances to make sure we are safe. But we need to learn that our protection is not in our man-made defenses. God is our true Source of Safety!

Tiger Tales



MISS ELBALA 1997



Pictured above are (l-r): Misty Kelley, 1st runner up; Kerry Kelley, Miss Elbala; and Christina Cook, 2nd runner up.

Elba Elementary School Menus

March 17 - 21, 1997

Breakfast	Lunch
Monday - Cheese Toast or Cereal, Juice, Milk	Monday - Hamburger on Bun, Potato Tots, Lettuce, Tomato, Dill, Jello, Milk
Tuesday - Pancake w/Syrup or Cereal, Juice, Milk	Tuesday - Vegetable Beef Soup, Cheese Sandwich, 1/2 Apple, Milk
Wednesday - Breakfast Pizza or Cereal, Juice, Milk	Wednesday - Chicken, Fried Beef Patty, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Roll, Mixed Fruit, Milk
Thursday - Sausage & Biscuit or Cereal, Juice, Milk	Thursday - Pizza, Broccoli, Whole Kernel Corn, Applesauce, Milk
Friday - Cinnamon Toast or Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk	Friday - Hamburger Helper, Field Peas, Crackers, 1/2 Orange, Milk

Smaller Is Sometimes Better

by Erin Vignola

Many of us wish to do great and many things, things for people to remember us by. Things that will make us famous. Things that will make people smile. Yet, we often do not realize that small deeds for others are the ones most remembered. Sundry small acts of kindness are more appreciated than one large act committed solely for praise and recognition. Let us not be shallow just to gain the acts of others. Attention for the mere sake of attention leads only to a life of unnecessary and endless yearning. Unselfishness, in the end, contributes to most of our happiness. After all, history, although sometimes made up of the few acts of the great, is more often shaped by the many acts of the small.

SENIOR of the WEEK



by Renae Nicholson

The senior of the week is Trent Calhoun. He's the son of Terry and Margaret Calhoun. Trent's hobbies include fishing and hunting. He is a member of FFA and St. Beta. Trent also attends the Elba United Methodist Church. His goal for this year is to graduate and attend college. Trent's favorite past time is baseball.

Children Learn What They Live

by Renae Nicholson

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By building on children's natural language base, the program's goal is for students to learn to write what they can say, and read what they have written.

The computer learning center at Elba Elementary was installed in November 1996, thanks to a three-year funding partnership between Elba Elementary, the governor's discretionary fund, and City of Elba Water and Electric, and Alabama Electric Cooperative (AEC) in Andalusia. AEC provided matching funds to Elba Water and Electric to complete the three-year funding requirements.

The "Writing to Read" program was marketed in 1984 by Dr. John Henry Martin, a University of Alabama graduate and noted national educator with 35 years of experience as a teacher and school administrator.

To date 48 states have implemented the program in at least some of their elementary schools; Alabama, Mississippi and West Virginia have either completed or started state-wide implementation.

Elba Water and Electric serves 1807 consumers on 72 miles of line. AEC is a generation and transmission cooperative that provides wholesale power to Elba W&E.

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Farm Tractor Safety Instruction



by Ashley Thomas

The Zion Chapel FFA Chapter recently celebrated National FFA Week, February 17-22, by conducting a farm safety program with the middle school students.

Bart Hughes and Coach John McCrory, FFA sponsor, drove tractors to school

for tractor day. The tractors were then used to teach the middle school students about tractor safety and the importance of safety on the farm.

Coach McCrory conducted the program. At the end of the program he answered questions from the students.

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Graduation Preparation

by Heather Vaughan

The Zion Chapel High School class of 1997 have received their caps, gowns, and their invitations and now it is just a matter of time and hard study time until graduation.

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Views from

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

We had another birthday at the Mularz house last week, and this time it was our oldest daughter getting to have her cake and eat it too, as Melissa turned 14-years-old. We gave her some money to buy clothes, but told her we had to approve any and all purchases. That didn't last long, however, because after visiting store after store in the mall, we simply had a seat on a bench and told her to come back when she ran out of money and we'd all go home. You know, that seemed a lot quicker!

ELBA TIGERS WRAP UP SPRING FOOTBALL DRILLS

The Elba Tigers wrapped up spring football drills last week with their annual "Black and Gold" game, and while the score of the game was only 6-0, everyone in attendance was pleasantly surprised with the talent on both teams and the play of the teams. There were many that feared the worst for the 1997 season after last year's 4-7 record and the loss of 14 seniors, but Coach Lowery and his staff simply rolled up their sleeves and went to work selling their program to the students, and at Wednesday's game a total of 46 players were dressed out. It is hard to tell just how good the Tigers will be after watching a spring game; however, the Tigers do appear loaded with running backs and have two quality quarterbacks to run the show. The line may be a problem once again due to a lack of size and experience, but overall the Tigers appear to have the nucleus of a solid football team and may surprise some folks when they kick it off next season. There is still a lot of hard work left to do in the weight room and with conditioning, and I for one believe that the coaches and players will do what it takes and make the Tiger fans proud in '97.

PREP BASEBALL SEASON IS ALREADY HERE

The high school baseball season is now underway and it looks like an exciting season ahead for Elba and the four area schools. Losses sometimes mount early in the season due to a lack of actual game experience, but the teams in the area all have some quality players, and should have big years. Here's a peek ahead at the teams in the area.

***ELBA TIGERS have six starters back from last season and if they get some pitching could be in store for a winning season. Josh Dawkins will have to be the Tiger's starter on the mound, while Derek Marler and Ronnie Davis will also take their turns on the mound. Elba could have some hitting power with Todd McKee, D'Undray Peterson and Marler, and if the Tigers can get some early wins, more should come with regularity.

***NEW BROCKTON GAMECOCKS have another very young team, but unlike last season the Gamecocks now have some experience and could start putting some wins on their side of the ledger. Most of the New Brockton players have grown up playing ball in the Elba Recreation leagues and have years of actual game experience, and it should pay dividends. This could be a big year for the Gamecocks, in spite of a very tough schedule.

***ZION CHAPEL REBELS have only 11 players on their roster and have very little experience. The Rebels learned how to win last season and know how it feels to make it to state; however, a change in area foes will make a return trip hard to find. If the inexperienced Rebels can survive early on and gain some confidence, they could surprise some people down the line.

***KINSTON BULLDOGS have had the county's top small school program for the past couple of years and appear ready to rule the roost once again. The Bulldogs lost most of their skill players to graduation last season, but have some talented youngsters coming up, and are comfortable on the diamond. The Bulldogs should challenge for a playoff berth.

***BRANTLEY BULLDOGS have scheduled a bunch of ballgames and the folks up in Crenshaw County must think they have the skills to win some games. Brantley was once famous for its baseball talents, and win or lose, it is good to see the Bulldogs making a major commitment to get back into the sport. Don't be surprised if the "Dogs make some noise.

GIRL'S SOFTBALL REMAINS MAJOR SPORT IN AREA

The high school girl's softball season is also getting into full swing around the area, and if area fans want to see some really good softball action, they can just go out to any of the area schools and watch some of South Alabama's most talented teams in action. Here's a quick peek at the upcoming season.

***ELBA LADY TIGERS return six starters from last year's team and are expecting to pile up some wins. The Lady Tigers have experienced players at just about every position on the field, and if they can find their bats early on and start hitting, the wins could very well come. A favorable schedule and an experienced team should combine to make this season one in which the Lady Tigers make some noise.

***NEW BROCKTON LADY GAMECOCKS placed third in the state last season in the 1A ranks and this season are looking for an even better finish in 2A circles. The Lady Gamecocks should have one of the hardest hitting teams around, and always play solid on defense, which has to add up to a whole bunch of wins. This is definitely a team to watch.

***KINSTON LADY BULLDOGS are always one of the top teams around and this year should be no different as a very talented group of female athletes will take to the field. The Lady Bulldogs work hard and play hard, and are always fun to watch. This season everyone involved with the program should have some fun.

***ZION CHAPEL LADY REBELS have struggled to get their softball program established, but do have some quality athletes coming up and this could be the season in which they take that next step toward becoming a solid team. If the Lady Rebels can improve, and not worry about their record, the winning will take care of itself.

***BRANTLEY LADY BULLDOGS took giant strides late in the season last year and should be a solid team this season. The Lady Bulldogs have plenty of talent to choose from and only need a shot of confidence to get them going. They may still be a year or two away from being a contender, but the "dogs will bite some folks this season.

MEN'S SOFTBALL LEAGUE COULD BE IN TROUBLE

There has been a Men's Softball League in Elba for many, many years, and it has often been thought of as one of the strongest leagues around. This season may be a different story; however, as only two teams showed up for the league's organizational meeting and unless there is some interest shown very soon the city may not even have a league. A minimum of six teams is needed to have a league, and I encourage everyone that likes to play softball to talk with your friends and get up a team, now!

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Sports

Wood inducted into Wiregrass Sports Hall of Fame

The Wiregrass Sports Hall of Fame held its fifth annual Induction Ceremony on Friday night, March 7, at the Dothan Civic Center, and included among the 1997 honorees was former Elba High School football coach Mack Wood.

The Hall of Fame banquet was sponsored by the Hawk-Houston Boys Club Inc., with the remaining inductees being Molly Blalock, Clarence Slaughter, Dexter Wood, Max Griffin and Calvin Jones.

"To be inducted into the Hall of Fame means you have survived through a lot of years, through good times and bad," stated Coach Wood prior to the ceremony. "It also means that you were lucky enough to accomplish some things that others felt were worthwhile. It is a great honor to be inducted into the Wiregrass Sports Hall of Fame, and it is an honor I share with everyone that has supported me over the years."

"A lot of coaches that have been honored have moved on into administration or gone into business after years of coaching," said Wood, "but I always wanted to be a coach and after coaching for over 30 years it is a special honor for me to be included among those that have already been inducted into this Hall of Fame. I was chosen for this honor because of the things I was able to accomplish in coaching, and that is really something that is special to a coach like me."

The Wiregrass Sports Hall of Fame was formed in 1992 as a means of honoring past and future athletes that have achieved fame in the world of sports. The Hall of Fame is open to athletes and coaches who have demonstrated throughout their careers in sports those which clean, identical them as champions in their sports, professional or amateur.

To be eligible for induction into the Hall of Fame, the athlete must:

- (1) Be a native of the Wiregrass area;
- (2) Have attended four years of school in the Wiregrass area, three of which were in senior high school;
- (3) Be a resident of the Wiregrass area for a sufficient period of time to be considered a permanent resident; or
- (4) Meet one of the above requirements and have been a coach for a minimum of fifteen years.

The Hall of Fame Selection Committee considers a lot of nominees each year, and then chooses not more than ten members to be inducted.

The members of the Hall of Fame's "Class of 1997" were all presented resolutions from the Alabama House of Representatives in recognition of the honor, and received plaques in honor of the occasion.

The featured speaker for the evening was Steadman Shealy, a prominent Dothan attorney and former quarterback at the University of Alabama.

Shealy told the inductees that to be inducted into the Hall of Fame was a true honor because "There is nothing like homefolk, and since



WIREGRASS HALL OF FAME'S 1997 CLASS...was inducted on Friday night, March 7, during ceremonies at the Dothan Civic Center. The "Class of 1997" included (seated, l-r) Dexter Wood, Mrs. Calvin Jones, Molly Blalock, (standing, l-r) Mack Wood, Clarence Slaughter and Max Griffin.

homefolk know you the best, this honor should mean even more."

He told the gathering that Coach Paul Bryant told incoming football players at Alabama that if they wanted to be great in any aspect of their life they had to develop in three areas.

"He said you had to develop physically, mentally and spiritually," stated Shealy. "If you developed in these three areas you would have a balance in your life and be in control of whatever happened."

A special slide presentation was presented about each inductee, with slides on Coach Wood including one with his players on the 1989 and 1992 state championship football teams, one with his assistant coaches, one holding his grandson and one with the former Tiger coach discussing a play with a referee on the field.

After receiving his plaque and being introduced to the gathering, Coach Wood stated "I am extremely honored and grateful to receive this honor tonight. I was fortunate to have had the chance to work with outstanding teachers, coaches and students during my years in coaching. Everyone has to make a choice after they complete their education on how they want to live their life, and I chose to be a coach. It was a decision I have never regretted making and I have no complaints."

Wood recognized his family and friends that were in attendance, gave special recognition to the sports booster clubs that supported

his program and thanked all the educational staff at the high schools at which he coached.

"I also want to say a special thanks to my former assistant coaches," added Wood, "because no coach is ever successful without a good group of hard working coaches. Finally, I want to say thanks to the parents of the players I worked with. Without their understanding and support nothing would have been possible."

Mack Wood joined other former Coffee County sports legends as Charles Cole, Dr. Gaylon McCollough, Creigh Purnell and Bryant Steele in the Hall of Fame.

The members of the Wiregrass Hall of Fame are recognized with bronze plaques that hang in the lobby of the Dothan Civic Center.

District 7 ASA umpire clinics to be held at three locations

Alabama Amateur Softball Association District 7 Commissioner Gene Calhoun has announced that there will be three umpire clinics in the district in coming weeks.

The clinics will be held at the Westgate Recreation Center, in Dothan, on Saturday, March 15, at 9:00 AM; Andalusia Recreation Center, in Andalusia, on Sunday, March 23, at 2:00 PM; and at the Charles Henderson High School cafeteria, in Troy, on Saturday, April 12, at 9:00 AM.

AASA registration is \$37, and there will be a rules/mechanics clinic at all testing sites. Rule books and insurance information will be given out prior to the testing. All ASA umpires must attend

one of these clinics, and for more information call District 7 Umpire-In-Chief Jim Golden at 793-7416.

The entry fee for a team is \$10 per player and \$25 sanctioning fee, and for more information call the Elba Department of Parks and Recreation at 897-6833.

Anyone wishing to umpire baseball and softball this summer in Elba should attend an organizational meeting on Wednesday night, March 19, at 7:30 PM at the Elba Recreation Center.

Anyone ages 16 or older may umpire in the various leagues sponsored by the Elba Department of Parks and Recreation.

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Tiger baseballers are ready to roll

The Elba Tiger baseball team has opened its season and Coach David Lowery expects his team to once again compete for an Area championship, despite a move into

another area and a lack of experienced pitchers.

"The change in area alignment will make it hard to get to the state playoffs," said Coach Lowery. "Re-

hobeth always has a very good baseball team and is expecting its best season in years this spring, while Headland is also strong and is loaded with experience and confidence. It will be hard to win the area, and we'll have to play well just to get to the playoffs."

"We got in some practice during spring football practice," said Lowery, "and have done quite a bit of hitting, though not nearly enough against live pitching. It may take a few games to get settled in and shake out the rust, but we should be all right before long and hope to field a very competitive team."

Five starters will return for the Tigers this season, including Josh Dawkins (P-C), Derek Marler (P-CF), Todd McKee (1B), D'Undray Peterson (3B) and Josh Mack (SS).

"Todd McKee, Derek Marler and D'Undray Peterson all batted over 300 last season and will be expected to lead the way at the plate," said Coach Lowery, "while Josh Dawkins will have to pitch well as our number one starter."

"Our schedule is tough, like all years," stated Lowery, "and includes ten games against 4A, 5A and 6A teams. Our pitching will get put to the test early in the season, with four games over a stretch of four days, but with a 22 game schedule we'll need to find out who can help us on the mound as quickly as possible."

All games will be played at Le-gion Field.

ELBA TIGERS 1997 BASEBALL SCHEDULE

March 14	Brantley (2)	3:30	Home
March 15	Luverne	1:00	Home
March 17	Opp	3:30	Home
March 19	Andalusia	4:00	Away
March 20	G.W. Long	6:00	Away
March 24	Brantley	4:30	Away
March 25	Rehobeth	3:30	Home
March 27	Daleville	6:00	Away
March 29	Enterprise (2)	11:00	Home
April 1	Walton High	1:30	Troy
April 1	Charles Henderson	4:00	Troy
April 7	Luverne	6:00	Away
April 8	Headland	4:00	Home
April 11	Rehobeth	5:00	Away
April 17	Walton High	6:00	Away
April 17	G.W. Long	6:00	Home
April 18	Headland	5:00	Away
April 21	Opp	4:00	Away
April 22	Daleville	6:00	Home

Lady Tigers ready for season opener

The Elba Lady Tiger softball team will begin its season on Tuesday, March 18, and Coach David Collins is hoping that the 1997 season will bring with it a renewed dedication to excellence and a return to the state playoffs.

"We still have a very young softball team," stated Coach Collins, "but we have a group of youngsters with a lot of experience, and are expecting them to work hard and develop into a solid softball team."

Returning starters from last season's team include Leslie Stinson (C), Kendra Vaughan (SS), Amber Frederick (3B), Leigh Kelley (OF), Chastity Williams (OF) and Bonnie Vaughan (OF), while others returning with varsity experience will include Raeanne McCollough (C), Melissa Mularz (P), Melissa Grant-ham (1B), Michelle Lewis (2B), Vaughan Boyd (OF), Christy Smith (1B-C) and Telesita Daniels (3B-2B).

"We may only have one senior in the starting line-up," said Collins, "and the youth of the team may show at times. However, all the girls know how to play, and what it takes to win, and we are hoping to have a big season."

All games will be played at Hawkins-Williams Park.

ELBA LADY TIGERS 1997 SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

March 18	Highland Home (1)	4:00	Home
March 20	Kinston (1)	3:30	Away
March 21-22	Samson Tourney	TBA	Away
March 24	Samson (1)	4:00	Away
March 27	New Brockton (2)	3:00	Home
April 8	Highland Home (1)	4:00	Home
April 9	Opp (2)	3:30	Home
April 11-12	Elba Tourney	TBA	Home
April 14	New Brockton (2)	3:30	Away
April 17	Ariton (2)	4:00	Away
April 21	Samson (2)	4:30	Home
April 22	Opp (2)	3:30	Away
April 24	Zion Chapel (2)	3:30	Home
April 28	Andalusia (2)	4:00	Away
April 29	Zion Chapel (2)	3:30	Home
May 1	Ariton (2)	4:30	Home
May 3	Sectional Tourney	TBA	Elba

ELBA LADY TIGERS 1997 JUNIOR VARSITY SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

March 13	Luverne (2)	4:00	Home
March 17	New Brockton (2)	3:30	Home
March 18	Highland Home (1)	5:00	Home
March 20	Kinston (1)	4:30	Away
March 24	Samson (1)	5:00	Away
March 25	Highland Home (1)	4:00	Away

Men's softball meeting to be held March 19

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation will hold a meeting on Wednesday night, March 19, at 7:00 PM, at the Elba Recreation Center, for anyone wishing to enter a team in the Elba Men's Softball League.

Only three teams attended the first organizational meeting, and a minimum of six teams must enter for the league to charter.

The entry fee for a team is \$10 per player and \$25 sanctioning fee, and for more information call the Elba Department of Parks and Recreation at 897-6833.

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ZION CHAPEL REBELS 1997 BASEBALL SCHEDULE

March 15	Houston Academy	4:00	Elba
March 17	Ariton	6:30	Elba
March 19	Kinston	3:00	Away
March 21	Elba	5:00	Elba
March 25	G.W. Long	6:00	Away
March 27	New Brockton	6:00	Elba
March 31	Goshen	3:00	Elba
April 8	Samson	6:30	Elba
April 10	Ariton	6:00	Away
April 12	Coffee County Tournament		
April 15	Kinston	5:00	Elba
April 18	Houston Academy	3:30	Away
April 23	Brantley	3:30	Elba
April 24	Samson	3:30	Away

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SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT TRAIL

MARCH 21-22 - The Enterprise Department of Leisure Services will host a men's Class C & D softball tournament on March 21-22 at Donaldson Park. Entry fee is \$100 and hit your own MSP47 softball. Deadline to enter is 3:00 PM on March 19. Trophies will be given to the Top 3 teams. For more information call 334/547-1211, ext.300.

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NO WHERE TO RUN...The defenses dominated the action last Wednesday afternoon as the Elba Tigers concluded spring football practice with the annual Black & Gold game. A total of 46 players took part in the intrasquad game at Elba High School.

Elba concludes spring football drills

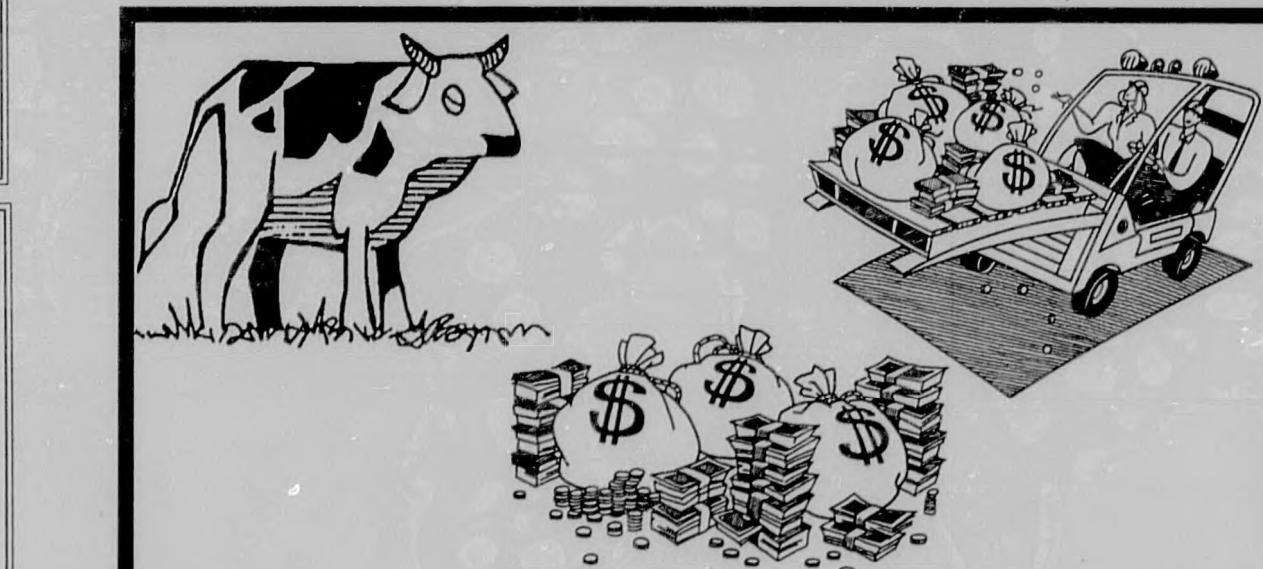
The Elba Tigers concluded spring football training last week with the annual "Black and Gold" intrasquad game, and while Coach David Lowery was surprised with the lack of scoring in the 6-0 contest, he was pleased with the effort and attitude of the players that took part in spring practice.

"We did things a little different for the spring game," said Coach Lowery, "and it showed. We put the starting backs with the number one center, and then put the second backfield with the starting offensive line. We tried to make the game more competitive, and since the final score was 6-0, I guess it worked."

"The lack of scoring surprised me because we had spent a lot of time working on offense throughout spring practice," added Lowery. "I thought both teams would score more points; however, when the defense knows the plays you are going to run, it makes it hard to score."

"There were many bright spots in the game," said Lowery, in his third year at the Elba helm. "The defenses really got after the ball and the tackling was excellent for a spring game. After the game, I could see we had more depth than we did a year ago, even though the

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ESJC SR. HIGH COMPOSITION HONORABLE MENTIONS... Winning isn't easy in the Senior High School Composition competition in the annual English Tournament held recently at Enterprise State Junior College. Winning Honorable Mentions were (l to r) Lana Odom from Kinston High School, Katrina Kelley from George W. Long High School, Stacy Solomon from Opp High School, Daniel Murdock from Elba High School, and Tom Lewis from Carroll High School.



ESJC JR. HIGH COMPOSITION HONORABLE MENTIONS... Writing well was the object of the Junior High School Composition competition in the annual English Tournament held recently at Enterprise State Junior College. Winning Honorable Mentions were (l to r) Meredith McConough from Dauphin Junior High School, Conny Cooper from Elba High School, Jennifer Stewart and Megan O'Connor from Coppinville Junior High School, Suzanne Farver from Daleville Middle School, and Lauren Walworth from Houston County High School.



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Applications being accepted for USDA Housing Preservation Grants

Horace H. Horn, Jr., State Director of Rural Development, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, announces the availability of the Fiscal Year (FY) 1997 Housing Preservation Grant (HPG) program. This program is available to eligible organizations to rehabilitate individual dwellings owned and occupied by very-low and low income rural persons or single or multiple rental properties occupied by very-low and low income tenants in rural areas. Applicants may not combine assistance to homeowners and rental property owners in one proposal; therefore, they should indicate whether the proposal is to assist individual homeowners or rental properties.

Grantees will provide eligible homeowners or rental property owners with financial assistance through grants, loans, interest reduction payments or other comparable financial assistance for necessary repairs and rehabilitation to raise the conditions of the housing unit to current building code and thermal standards for existing housing, contribute to the health, safety and well-being of the occupant, and to the structural integrity and long-term preservation of the housing.

Timeframes for the HPG program are as follows: March 23, 1997: Last day for publication of 15 day public comment process; April 7, 1997: Closing date for receipt of preapplications in USDA Rural Development State Office.

Applicants are encouraged to submit preapplications as early as possible prior to the April 7, 1997 deadline. USDA Rural Development will make every effort to promptly perform an initial review for completeness only and advise applicants of any additional information needed for a complete preapplication package. Preapplications received after March 31 will not assure sufficient time for USDA Rural Development to complete this initial review and contact applicants for supplemental materials needed. Preapplications submitted which are not complete by April 7 will be returned to the applicant.

The HPG program is administered by USDA Rural Development (334-279-3455). Preapplications must be submitted to: Horace H. Horn, Jr., State Director; USDA Rural Development, 4121 Carmichael Road, Suite 601; Montgomery, AL 36106-3683.

Under federal and state regulations, the bill is higher under the slandering company that it would have been under the rates of the company of choice, then consumers are not obligated to pay the difference. However, it may be complicated if your service is changed without your intentional permission or informed consent, you are entitled to be compensated and made whole.

Pryor said, He advises consumers to examine their phone bills each month to make sure they have not been switched to their long distance company of choice.

Customers who discover they have been slandering should notify their service company that they are billing, and instruct that their service be switched back to the long distance company they prefer.

When deciding whether to change long-distance companies, consumers should also ask the amount of any switching fee and who pays these, and whether there are monthly fees. "If your service is changed without your intentional permission or informed consent, you are entitled to be compensated and made whole," Pryor said.

Customers who discover they have been slandering should notify their service company that they are billing, and instruct that their service be switched back to the long distance company they prefer.

There are contest boxes in public places, for example, where people sign and insert forms with small print which authorizes the switching of long distance service to the company that sponsors the contest. In a mail, someone will approach a shopper with a survey, which includes a similar authorization that may be signed unintentionally. "I cannot emphasize enough that we must all pay close attention to the small print in documents," Pryor said. "Read carefully, ask questions, and if you are unsure do not sign."

Long distance service also may be switched with consumers' knowledge, but not always with their informed consent. "It may be to your advantage to change your long distance service," Pryor noted. "Different companies offer rates which may be more advantageous for times, places, and volume of calls you make."

The Attorney General added, however, that "high-pressure sales pitches will emphasize what looks good but may not work best for you. It is best to get a written copy of rate policies and study it, rather than to make a decision based on verbal representations."

Logger Safety Seminar planned for March 22 in Troy

The Alabama Loggers Council and the Alabama Forestry Association are sponsoring a Logging Safety Seminar in this area. All loggers are encouraged to attend this meeting which will be held March 22, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. in Charles Henderson High School in Troy.

This seminar will be offering new information that will benefit all loggers. The seminars held in previous years have targeted loggers who have not completed the Professional Logging Manager Course. This year, the seminar has been opened to all loggers as a continuing education course. The seminar is also the first day of the PLM course for those loggers who need to complete the course.

This year an important part of the program will be Coaching the Professional Truck Driver. This is a course developed by the National Safety Council designed to enhance the skills of truck drivers. Coaching the Professional Truck Driver is open to all log truck drivers. The program has been revamped for the rest of the crew as well. Woods workers will learn important ways to avoid and reduce the hazards inherent to logging. Contractors will learn about HAZMAT Programs, DOT requirements, and new OSHA regulations.

Loggers who have already completed the Professional Logging Manager Course need only attend the Saturday seminar. Please bring your crew with you to this meeting. Everyone can and will benefit from the revised program. Lunch will be provided. For more information, call Forrest Bridges at the Alabama Loggers Council office (334-265-8733) or Charlie Dauphin (334-636-0557 or 636-0484).

Elba Chamber of Commerce 1997 New Members/Renewals

(since Feb. 17, 1997)

James Grimes, First Baptist Church, Sessions Company, Coffee County Commission, Martin's, Grant's True Value Hardware, Celia English, DBA Broken CD Stables, Kenneth Calhoun, State Farm Agent, Taylor Mike, Taylor's Gym, Kenneth Calhoun, State Farm Agent, Taylor Mike, Taylor's Gym, Kenneth Calhoun, State Farm Agent, Taylor Mike, Taylor's Gym.

Thank you so much for your support of the Elba Chamber of Commerce. If you have not paid your 1997 dues, please join us today. We need your support to reach our goal of 150 in 1997. Our mission is to promote business, community growth and development. The chamber will also strive to improve the community and be responsive to needs and concerns of the people of Elba.

EDSCO Fasteners, The Peoples Bank, Wilson Dryers, Don Morrow, Taylor Mike, Taylor's Gym, Kenneth Calhoun, State Farm Agent, Taylor Mike, Taylor's Gym, Kenneth Calhoun, State Farm Agent, Taylor Mike, Taylor's Gym.

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Scripture: Acts 5:1-11.

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African American History... March 1: Monthly motivation: Positive anything is better than negative nothing. Lorraine Hansberry 1932: On this day (March 4) Zenni Miriam Makhel, who will become the "Empress of African Soap" is born.

1770: On this day (March 5) Crispus Attucks is killed in the Boston Massacre, which marks the start of the American Revolution.

1857: On this day (March 6) the U.S. Supreme Court rules against citizenship for African Americans in the Dred Scott decision.

1917: On this day (March 7) Janet Collins is born. She will become a prima ballerina and the first African American to perform on stage at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City.

1945: On this day (March 8) Phyllis Mae Daley receives her commission as ensign in the Navy Nurse Corps and becomes the first African American nurse to serve in active duty in World War II.

Today is a good day. Be grateful. Eria

Little Miss, Jr. Miss & Miss Elba Pageants to be held in April

The Elba Chamber of Commerce will again be sponsoring the Little Miss, Jr. Miss, and Miss Elba pageants on April 18 and 19, 1997. Little Miss is scheduled for Friday, April 18 at 7:00 p.m. at the Elba High School Auditorium. Alison McCreary, Miss Alabama 1996, will emcee and perform as well. In addition to her current reign as Miss Alabama, she was third runner-up to Miss America and was winner of Quality of Life Award. She is currently a junior at Sanford University majoring in human development/family studies.

Carnie Johnson of WSEA-TV "Today in Alabama" will be emcee of the Jr. Miss and Miss Elba pageant scheduled for Saturday, April 19 at 7:00 p.m. Special entertainment is being scheduled for this event. Carrie was a participant in the National Peanut Festival as Miss Dothan 1985-86.

A preliminary meeting with parents is scheduled for Monday, March 17, at 6:30 p.m. at the Elba Public Library for all interested Little Miss participants. Jr. Miss and Miss Elba participants and parents are scheduled for 7:30. These meetings are very important.

Used oil collection dates set

Have you changed the oil in your farm tractor or other farm machinery and then dumped or buried the used oil on your farm? These practices can add up to a big disaster for your crops, animals, and even your family.

Let's harvest that used oil and keep your farm clean for future generations. There will be a used oil and filter collection week scheduled for Monday-Friday, March 17-21, 1997 at the New Brockton High School, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. If you have questions please call the Coffee County Extension Office at 894-5596 or 894-6138, or New Brockton High School at 894-6321.

Musical Workshop

A Musical Workshop will be held with practices on March 17-21, 1997 at Shiloh MB Church (Tarentum Community). On Saturday, March 22, there will be a concert. Fees for the event are \$3.00 per person. Rev. A.R. Williams, pastor and Sis. Linda Terry, choir president.

Praise & Worship

An evening of Praise and Worship through songs will be held March 15, 1997 at 6:30 p.m. at Bethlehem MB Church, Elba, AL (Dandley's Crossroads). Rev. Darryl Caldwell is pastor. The services will begin at 6:30 nightly and Rev. Bland will be the evangelist for the week.

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4305, 4310, 4315, 4320, 4325, 4330, 4335, 4340, 4345, 4350, 4355, 4360, 4365, 4370, 4375, 4380, 4385, 4390, 4395, 4400, 4405, 4410, 4415, 4420, 4425, 4430, 4435, 4440, 4445, 4450, 4455, 4460, 4465, 4470, 4475, 4480, 4485, 4490, 4495, 4500, 4505, 4510, 4515, 4520, 4525, 4530, 4535, 4540, 4545, 4550, 4555, 4560, 4565, 4570, 4575, 4580, 4585, 4590, 4595, 4600, 4605, 4610, 4615, 4620, 4625, 4630, 4635, 4640, 4645, 4650, 4655, 4660, 4665, 4670, 4675, 4680, 4685, 4690, 4695, 4700, 4705, 4710, 4715, 4720, 4725, 4730, 4735, 4740, 4745, 4750, 4755, 4760, 4765, 4770, 4775, 4780, 4785, 4790, 4795, 4800, 4805, 4810, 4815, 4820, 4825, 4830, 4835, 4840, 4845, 4850, 4855, 4860, 4865, 4870, 4875, 4880, 4885, 4890, 4895, 4900, 4905, 4910, 4915, 4920, 4925, 4930, 4935, 4940, 4945, 4950, 4955, 4960, 4965, 4970, 4975, 4980, 4985, 4990, 4995, 5000, 5005, 5010, 5015, 5020, 5025, 5030, 5035, 5040, 5045, 5050, 5055, 5060, 5065, 5070, 5075, 5080, 5085, 5090, 5095, 5100, 5105, 5110, 5115, 5120, 5125, 5130, 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5965, 5970, 5975, 5980, 5985, 5990, 5995, 6000, 6005, 6010, 6015, 6020, 6025, 6030, 6035, 6040, 6045, 6050, 6055, 6060, 6065, 6070, 6075, 6080, 6085, 6090, 60

OFFICES

WHEREAS, on July, 1991, Margean G. Crook a/k/a Margean Crook Miller and Erick Miller, husband and wife, did execute and record a certain mortgage on certain real estate hereinafter described, which mortgage appears of record in the Office of the Judge of Probate of the County of San Diego, Mortgage Book 102-A, Page 103-06 and;

WHEREAS, default has been made in the payment of said Mortgage as provided in the terms thereof;

March 20, 1997, at 5:30 p.m. at the Elba City Hall to hear a request from L. M. Birch to place a single wide trailer on the property described and located at 1266 Ann Street. This property is currently zoned FF-1.

The property is described as follows:

One lot or parcel of land in the City of Elba, California, described as follows:

Commencing at the SW corner of Lot No. 7, of Payne Subdivision according to the plat of the same recorded in the County of San Diego, Book 102-A, Page 103-06;

NOW, THEREFORE, three weeks notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell at public outcry for cash, to the highest bidder, in front of the courthouse at Mobile, Alabama, in pursuance of a sale made by the court in the legal hours of sale on March 26, 1957, the real estate being more particularly described as lying and being situated in Coffee County, State of Alabama, to-wit: A certain parcel of land containing three acres, more or less, lying in and between the following described points, to-wit: Beginning at Ann Street to a point on the South margin of Ann Street, thence running N 58 degrees 36 minutes W 100 feet along the front of the C. C. Cantel lot to the point of beginning of the lot of the said Cantel; thence from said point of beginning, continuing North 58 degrees 36 minutes W 100 feet to a point, thence S 31 degrees 24 minutes W 150 feet to a point, thence continuing North 58 degrees 36 minutes W 100 feet to the SW corner of the C. C. Cantel lot.

East, in Coffee County, Alabama, and being more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the point where the North Fork of the Alabama River crosses the Township 7 North, Range 21 East, is intersected by the East side of the public road, and running thence East along the north line of said forty for a distance of 161 feet to a point; thence running Southerly direction along a line parallel with the East side of said public road a distance of 361 feet to a point; thence

of the C. L. Mount lot to the point of beginning of Ann Street. Said parcel of land being 100 feet across the front and running back 150 feet from the S margin on Ann Street as extended.

3-13,20-chn

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA
ALABA DIVISION

CIVIL ACTION NO. CV-97-H-25

361 feet to a point on the East side of said public road; thence running in a Northerly direction along the East side of said public road a distance of 361 feet to the point of beginning, together with the dwelling and all other improvements situated thereon.

Said easements, restrictions, and reservations appearing of record.

Said sale and conveyance will also be made subject to the legal rights of the Federal Tax Liens, and the Special

said mortgage for the purpose of paying the debt secured by said mortgage with interest thereon, any amounts required to be paid for taxes, insurance or other charges provided in said mortgage, and the costs of the mortgage, including a reasonable attorney's fee.

Said property will be sold on an "as is, where is" basis subject to any easements, encumbrances, and exceptions contained in said mortgage and those of record.

The records of the Office of the Judge of

without warranty or course, expressed or implied as to title, use and/or enjoyment, and will be sold subject to the right of redemption of all parties entitled hereunder.

COMMERCIAL CREDIT CORPORATION,
a corporation
PARNELL, CHARLES M. AND ANDERSON, P. A.
Attorneys for Parnell, III
Charles N. Parnell, III
Attorney for Mortgagee

334/832-4200 2-27,3-6,13-ch

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The City of Elba will conduct a final public hearing on Thursday, March 20, 1997 at 4:00 p.m. in reference to the City of Elba's CDBG project (LR-04-MF-95-026). The hearing will be held in the Elba City Council Chambers. The hearing is being held to give the citizens of the City of Elba an opportunity to make comments on the

briefing and/or show, or submit verbal comments against them.

GIVEN UNDER MY hand this 26th day of February, 1997.

/s/ Jim Ellis

Jim Ellis, Clerk
Columbia County Circuit Court
Thomas E. Sport
Attorney
P. O. Box 367
Luverne, Alabama 36049

3-6,13,20,27-ch

City officials to prepare the Performance Assessment Report (PAR).

All interested citizens should plan to attend the hearing. Any disabled persons needing assistance at the hearing should contact county officials.

James E. Grimes, Mayor
City of Elberta
200 Bulford Street
Elberta, Alabama 36623

IN THE PROBATE COURT

Letters Testamentary of said decedent having been granted to the undersigned on the 4th day of March, 1997, by the Hon. William O. Gammill, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby re-

<p>ELBA DIVISION</p>	<p>IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KATREEN S. VAUGHAN, DECEASED.</p>	<p>1st Martha W. Hix</p>	<p>3-13,20,27-29</p>
<p>CASE NO PC-97-13</p>	<p>ESTATE OF MADGE B. EDGE DECEASED</p>	<p>PROBATE COURT</p>	
<p>Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 5th day of March, 1997, by the Hon. William O. Gammill, Judge of the</p>			<p>Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 4th day of February, 1997, by the Hon. William O. Gammill, Judge of the</p>

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Overdrive, Asking **\$5,100.00** or Best Of-
fer. 897-3745. 3-6-9c

GOLF CARTS - Over 600 to pick from. New
shipment of gas Yamaha's 92 models, also 94
EZ-Golfs. Best in state. New '96
batteries \$220.00 / set of 6. Plaza Golf Carts,
Denopoli, AL. (334) 289-5891. (R)

FOR SALE

STEEL BUILDINGS - 1996 IN-
VENTORY CLEARANCE ON NEW-
ERECTED PREFAB KITS.
30x42, 40x40, Some Larger Sizes
Available. **WILL SELL FOR UNPAID**
BALANCE! 1-800-552-8504. 3-13-97

STEEL ROOFING and siding - 29, 26, 24
gauge galvalume and 29 and 26 gauge painted.
Custom lengths. We manufacture. Majestic
Metals, Inc. - Athens, AL. 1-800-871-0107. (R)

Essie Phelps at

The Plant Place
invites you to Stop by and see her.
She will have **Besides Plants** &
Rose Bushes soon & variety
of **Pol Plants**.
897-6935
3.5 miles N. of Elba on Brantley Hwy.

GOT ROACHES? Buy Eufencer, Extremi-
nator Plus, 20 second kill and roach killer con-
centrate. This PRO formula dissolving pack is
guaranteed or your money back. Available only
at the Home Depot. (R)

WOLFF'S SUMMATER commercial/home
systems. Our sunbeds are larger, tan better, cost
less. America's largest independent manufac-
turer. Easy payments, free delivery. Free color
catalog. 1-800-KEEP-IT-AT-IT. (R)

WOLFF TANNING beds - Monterey Bay.
Home and commercial units. Factory direct.
Financing available. 90 days same as cash.
Units start as low as \$109. Call 1-800-247-
1199. (R)

LAWFORD'S

ACE

HARDWARE
897-2300
SHUTTERS 40 Years Warranty - Will
Install. APPLIANCE PARTS-SEW-
ING. TYPE-BALLS, GLOVES, ALL
Dyer, etc. BALLS, GLOVES, ALL
Types of FERTILIZER, Your Home
and Garden Center. (Low Prices Every
Day, Over 5,000 Sizes). 2-6-9c

WOLFF TANNING beds - Tan at home. Buy
direct and SAVE! Commercial/home units
from \$109.00. Low monthly payments. Free
color catalog. Call today. 1-800-842-1310. (R)

WORLD'S BEST all purpose cleaner. Cleans
everything, anything. Money back guarantee.
1-888-22-DRILL. www.Southwestnet.com. (R)

RELAXUS 700 bath & AC, good condition.
\$690.00. 31hp like new \$490.00. 10" down
\$117.00. 85 hp. cab with air and heater.
\$13,700. Financing on all tractors. 1-800-726-
9511. (R)

1 NEW SLIGHTLY DAMAGED
DRESSER & MIRROR FOR SALE.
USE \$50.00 CLARK FURNITURE
Located on N. Troy Hwy. 897-1116.
3-13-9c

HAPPY JACK - mange medicine; promotes
healing and hair growth to severe skin diseases
on dogs and horses without steroids. Contains
no benzocaine. At AFC County Coop. (R)

FIBERGLASS
TUB & SHOWER SALES!
Trailer Tubs, Handicap Commodes, All
Wood Cabinets, Marble Tops,
Other Bargains!
Do It Yourself!
STOKES BATH
& KITCHEN
Andalusia, AL.
1-800-869-6770 or 222-5609

CENTRAL ALABAMA Homes - '96 model
homes sale, singles and multi-section, 14 wide
with extra bedrooms. 14x52.2+1316.999. 14
x70.2+2519.999. 14x64.2+2517.999.
Qualify by phone - 1-800-755-2283. (R)

LOSE WEIGHT WHILE YOU
SLEEP - Take OPAL tablets and
HYDREX - DIURETIC available
WHITMAN DRUGS 897-2407. 3-13-9c

THE 10 Million Dollar RV Super Show is
back! March 20-23rd, Birmingham Civic
Center. Up to \$5,000 cash drawing every hour.
500 door prizes, entertainment, refreshments.
Manufacturers, bankers, dealers and appraisers
will be here. Save thousands on new and used
RVs. Thurs-Sat. 10 a.m. - 10 p.m., Sun. 12
p.m. Bring the family!

ROGERS COMPANY, INC.
808 SO. HWY 231 • TROY, AL 36081 • 670 0090
Portable Buildings For Sale - Dry Storage;
Porches & Decks • Mobile Homes Parts
in Stock - Doors, Windows, All Sizes
South Alabama's Largest Selection
Over 50 To choose from!

FREE SET UP
10 YEAR WARRANTY
Multi-Purpose Building
With 100's Of Uses
FREE DELIVERY
FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH NOTHING DOWN!

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(Low Prices Every Day)
ACE
HARDWARE
897-2300
Complete line of Tool Supplies.
Large Selection of Hunting Supplies.
Your Echo Power Tool Supplier.
Your MTD/Scupper Dealer.
See Us For All of Your
Electrical & Plumbing Supplies.
2-6-9c

PRE-ENGINEERED Metal buildings. Alum-
inum framing steel buildings since 1967. Add Steel
can supply buildings to meet your specific
needs. Best prices on quality buildings call 1-
888-367-3332. (R)

AIABAMA RV SuperSale March 13-16.
Huge selection of America's best built new &
used RVs - representing major manufacturers.
Hurry to Alabama Motorcoach. 1-800-239-
1199. (R)

RV SHOW - Alabama's largest. Over 25 brand
names and 200 models on display. FREE
admission, free parking. March 13th through
16th. The Birmingham Race Course.

LAWFORD'S
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SHUTTERS 40 Years Warranty - Will
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Over 50 To choose from!

FREE SET UP
10 YEAR WARRANTY
Multi-Purpose Building
With 100's Of Uses
FREE DELIVERY
FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH NOTHING DOWN!

ANTIQUE AUCTION
Auctioneered by G.S. McTavish, House
& 6 acres, Opal. 27101. (R)

ANTIQUE & COLLECTIBLES
AUCTION
Sunday, March 16th, 12:30 - 5:30 PM.
Viewing 11:00 AM. American Legion
Building, Hwy 29W, Andalusia, AL.
For more information, call MISS JANE'S
ANTIQUE. 222-2192.

YARD SALE - SATURDAY MARCH 15
15th on left past new school. **Lot of**
Bargains. 7:00 AM - 10:30 AM. 3-13-9c

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OPEN HOUSE

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Sun. March 16, 2:00 - 4:00 PM.
529 East Davis
(Former Residence of Florie Wright)
FOR SALE BY OWNER
Custom built brick, 3
bdrm, 2 bath, open family
room, kitchen area, over
3,000 sq. ft. Many Extras:
Established Neighborhood -
Mature Landscaping.
Many Flowers, Trees &
Shrubs.
A MUST SEE!!!!
(If unable to attend, Call
897-2784 for appointment.)

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OPEN 7 DAYS
6:00 A.M.
TO 10:00 P.M.

PIGGLY WIGGLY OF OPP

408 N. Main Delta Plaza
(Hwy 331 N.)

"Where Shopping Is A Pleasure"

**QUANTITY RIGHTS
RESERVED**
Mar. 12-18, 1997



**COKE
PRODUCTS**
87¢ 2 Liter

"Sylvest Fresh
**LEG
QUARTERS**
37¢ lb
Family Pak

Fresh Whole
**BOSTON
BUTTS**
97¢ lb

**PORK
STEAKS**
\$1.29 lb
FAMILY PAK

**PEPSI
PRODUCTS**
87¢ 2 Liter

MEAT

FRESH HALF		
BOSTON BUTTS	lb.....	\$1.19
BONELESS		
PORK STEW	lb.....	1.29
CATFISH NUGGETS	lb.....	1.69
OL' SPRINGHILL		
HUSH PUPPIES	lb.....	99¢
RED RIND		
HOOP CHEESE	lb.....	2.29
ZEIGLER		
SEASON TO PLEASE SAUSAGE	12 oz.....	1.59
ZEIGLER		
BACON	12 oz.....	1.59

**KELLEY'S
HOT
LINKS**
99¢ lb pak

**HALL
BROTHERS
MILK**
\$1.99 GAL
Homog or 2%

GROCERY

FAB DETERGENT	2.25 lb.....	\$2.69
YOO-HOO		
CHOCOLATE DRINK	6 pk can 11 oz.....	2/5.00
YOO-HOO		
CHOCOLATE DRINK	6 pk bottle 9 oz.....	2/5.00
ROTEL		
DICED TOMATOES	10 oz can.....	59¢
IDAHOAN REAL		
MASHED POTATOES	13 oz.....	1.79
MARQUET		
RUBBING ALCOHOL	16 oz.....	2/1.00

**NABISCO
PREMIUM
CRACKERS**
\$1.29
16 oz box

PRODUCE

YELLOW ONIONS	3 lb bag.....	79¢
FRESH		
YELLOW SQUASH	lb.....	79¢
FRESH		
GREEN CABBAGE	lb.....	25¢
BABY		
PEELED CARROTS	3 oz bag.....	3/99¢

**VEG-ALL
MIXED
VEGETABLES**
2/88¢
15 oz can



**PIGGLY WIGGLY
SWEET
SALAD
CUBES**
69¢ 16 oz

ARCHIVES/ COLLECTION MAN 1-1-99
624 WASHINGTON AVE
MONTGOMERY AL 36130-0100
page 2

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School Pages
Pages 6 & 7

INSIDE
Area Sports
Pages 8 & 9

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Page 14

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50 CENTS

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TWO TEACHERS MAY LOSE JOBS

School board discusses testing and required pay raises

By Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City School Board met last Thursday evening, during the heavy rain, but they were snug and dry in the central office board room, atop the hill overlooking the school complex.

Board members approved a termination letter to non-tenured personnel; approved a leave of absence; paid the monthly bills; adopted a school calendar for the next school year; heard a report on the status of ongoing construction projects and discussed the "guts" of a proposed compromise in the "salary matrix" debate.

Vice Chairperson Aubrey Williams presided in the absence of Chairperson Myrna Cowen.

A review of the financial status showed the general fund remains in the "black". Superintendent Charles Pearce noted that the city and county sales tax revenues continue to meet

and exceed expectations.

Sandra Skinner was approved for a leave of absence to complete her student teaching during the spring quarter. She has been serving as a physical education aide in the elementary school.

Testing Coordinator Harriette Boyd addressed the board and discussed testing schedules for the balance of the school year. This is the same schedule published in this newspaper several weeks ago.

Included are the Stanford Achievement Test (SAT), High School Basic Skills Exit Exam to 11th and 12th graders; Alabama Direct Assessment of Writing; grades 5 & 7; Algebra 1 End of Course Test and Geometry End of Course Test.

This year is the last year for the two End of Course Test. Boyd told board members. The subject is being added to the Exit Exam in the future.

Mrs. Boyd pointed out to the board that special classes have been set up for students not presently en-

rolled in a math class. This is being done to give them plenty of refresher review before the SAT test in April.

When asked who would teach these extra classes, Pearce explained, "Some fine teachers who volunteer to give up their planning period."

It is routine for non-tenured personnel to get a non-renewal letter at the end of school. After the legislature approves a new budget, the administration then knows how many teacher units are funded for the next year.

Pearce told board members that a compromise proposal had apparently been approved between the schools,

AEA and the Alabama legislature. This will reportedly solve the problem of teachers who are making less than 100% of the statewide minimum or "matrix" established in 1994.

Pearce explained the compromise will give the raise to 100% in two steps, with teachers getting half of whatever shortfall they presently have during the first year and the other half the second year.

An exception will be teachers who declare in writing that they plan to retire within the next three years. These teachers get the 100% immediately. If they change their mind and don't retire, the extra money must be repaid.

Pearce said this plan would cost the local board from \$67,500 up to \$83,000. The higher figure is if all teachers eligible to retire so declare.

He added that even with the state plan for "lowering the divisor for teacher units by one," the compromise will still cause Elba to eliminate at least two teachers next year.

The superintendent explained that the school system is already losing \$143,000 in state funds called "whole harmless" beginning next year. By adding about \$39,400 in new money because of the lower-ered state enrollment divisor, Elba ends up with a net loss of about \$100,000 if the pay raise is mandated.

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Andy man stabbed in Coffee County

By Marvin McLwain, Editor

The Coffee County Sheriff's Department is investigating the stabbing and cutting of an Andalusian man early Sunday morning, March 16, 1997.

James Randy Harrelson, 32, of

Andalusia, is recovering after surgery in Southeast Alabama Medical center in Dothan. He received stab wounds to the abdomen and groin and cuts under his right arm.

The incident apparently stemmed from an argument between Harrelson and William Todd Martin also,

32, also from Andalusia.

The two men were involved in an argument at a local night club in Opp; however, they apparently left the establishment and entered rural Coffee County approximately one mile inside the county line on AL Hwy. 134.

After the incident an unidentified friend took Harrelson to Opp Mizell Memorial Hospital where he was later transferred to SEMAC by a unit of the Opp Rescue Squad. At 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning, Harrelson was reported to be in stable condition and being prepared for surgery.

The Coffee County Sheriff's Department was notified of the incident at 4:30 a.m. Sunday morning by the Opp Police Department.

As of Monday afternoon, no arrest has been made in the stabbing. The investigation is continuing by the Coffee County Sheriff's Department and the Opp Police Department.

**Jury finds former
Elba attorney guilty
of drug charges**

By Marvin McLwain, Editor

An attorney who practiced law in Elba for a short time has been convicted on federal drug charges.

Attorney David Harrison, 36, an attorney presently practicing law in Geneva, AL, was found guilty of conspiring to possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine in Coffee and Geneva counties.

He faces a possible prison sentence from 5 to 40 years and disbarment. The sentencing hearing has been set for May 12, 1997.

The guilty verdict was returned by a federal jury after hearing the case in Montgomery on Thursday March 6.

Harrison was arrested January 9, 1997 on a federal grand jury indictment charging him with entering into a methamphetamine conspiracy with a number of other individuals.

According to reports, Harrison is the 50th individual to be prosecuted in an ongoing joint investigation into methamphetamine trafficking in Southeast Alabama. Forty-nine people have been convicted.

Three residents of Coffee County also face sentencing on May 13 following their convictions in January on the same charges as Harrison.

They are Roger Wise and Dennis Weatherford of rural Coffee county and Dennis Weeks of Kinston.

The investigation leading to the arrests and convictions was conducted jointly by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Alabama Alcohol Beverage and Control Board, and the Alabama Bureau of Investigation. These agencies were assisted by the Geneva County and Coffee County Sheriff Departments.

Meet Your Elba Police Officers

Meet Police Officer Cpl. Michael Patrick. Michael has been a member of the Elba Police Department for the past 12 years. He has also served as a relief officer on the Brantley Police Department for 4 years.

Cpl. Patrick presently works in the patrol division of the department. He is a graduate of the Montgomery Police Department's Police Academy and has also received special training in schools held in Luverne, Hartford, and Ozark.

Michael states that what he likes most about being a policeman is "serving the public" and he has no dislikes. He also likes to serve warrants and make DUI cases.

On of his most memorable experiences as a policeman is when he received a commendation from the Alabama Attorney General and a plaque from M.A.D.D. (Mothers Against Drunk Drivers) for DUI arrests.

Cpl. Patrick would like to see more continuing education for police officers, more concentration of drugs, and more driver license and safety checks by the department.



Michael is single; however, he is engaged to be married in the near future.



MAN JUMPS OFF WHITEWATER BRIDGE...At approximately 1:09 p.m. Sunday afternoon, the Elba Police Department, along with Elba Rescue Squad, responded to an incident at the Whitewater Bridge on Smith Avenue in downtown Elba. It was reported by Chad Carter, a young man crossing the bridge, that a man had fallen off the bridge. Upon arriving on the scene, Thomas Spivey was located lying on the ground (not in the water) under the bridge. He was complaining of injuries to his leg and ankle. Spivey was transported to Elba General Hospital where he received emergency treatment. He was later transferred to a Dothan hospital for further treatment. Based on information given police, Spivey jumped from the bridge. Family members stated that he had been to the hospital in Luverne seeking psychiatric treatment, and was sent home after being told to return on Monday. None of Spivey's injuries were thought to be life-threatening. The incident is still under investigation by the Elba Police Department.

Traffic stop leads to drug bust

By Marvin McLwain, Editor

A routine traffic stop by Elba police on Friday, March 14, led to a drug bust.

Investigator Johnny Senn, who represents EPD on the 12th Judicial Circuit Drug Task Force, reported that following a traffic stop by investigators a quantity of drugs were discovered.

Randall Jeff Crocker, 35, of Elba was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana in the first degree, and unlawful possession, or receipt, of a controlled substance.

He was also charged with possession of drug paraphernalia.

Seized in the arrest were approximately 3 ounces of marijuana, a revolver handgun, and a 1985 Dodge Daytona automobile. The street value of the marijuana is about \$400.00.

Crocker was placed in the Coffee County Jail in New Brockton and



later released after posting a total bail of \$4,500.00.

The matter is still under investigation by the 12th Judicial Circuit Drug Task Force and the Elba Police Department.

ACS Relay for Life set for May 16

The 1997 Relay for Life sponsored by the Coffee County Chapter of the American Cancer Society has been set for May 16, 1997.

Members of the chapter are busy enlisting and encouraging individuals and groups to get involved in this team effort of fighting cancer.

In a press conference held last Thursday, Charlene Goolsby said, "The event is a celebration of life and a memorialization to those who lost their battle with cancer."

The twelve hour event will begin in the late evening of Friday, May 16, and last throughout the night. It involves teams made up of individuals from corporations, families, groups of friends, and other various organizations from throughout the county.

The relay will take place on the campus of Enterprise State Junior College in Enterprise as it has for the past five years.

In addition to the around-the-clock walking, there will be other activities such as line dancing, a talent show, and music provided by a live band.

The highlight of the Relay is both an emotional and moving one when the first lap around the track is made by cancer survivors.

Luminary sponsors are being sought by the ACS. Corporations, organizations or groups are being asked to be overall luminary sponsors for a donation of \$5,000.00.

In return for their donation, these special sponsors' name will be placed on each luminary bag, on t-

shirts, and the website. Last year, more than 1,200 individuals participated in the overall event; however, it is estimated that more than 2,800 people were present during the luminary lighting ceremony.

It is estimated that approximately 560,000 individuals will die from cancer in 1997. That is more than 1,500 people per day.

The local chapter's goal for this year is to raise \$110,000.00 to be used to fight this killer.

"Relay for Life is as much an awareness raiser about the progress

against cancer as it is a fundraiser," said David Deal, Relay for Life Chairman for 1997. "Many of the participants will be people who have been cured of cancer."

"Their involvement is proof of the progress that has been made not only in cancer cure rates, but in the quality of life following cancer treatment."

For more information concerning Relay for Life '97 contact David Deal at 347-4247, Charlene Goolsby at 347-2866 or the American Cancer Society at 793-1012.

* * * HAPPENINGS * * *

FIFTY-YEAR CELEBRATION. In celebration of 50 years in business, The National Security Group of Elba invites Wiregrass citizens to join them for an evening of musical entertainment. On Friday March 21, Stage Centre Company will present "Some Enchanted Evening - The Songs of Rodgers and Hammerstein" at 7:30 p.m. in the Elba High School Auditorium. For complimentary tickets call 897-2273 ext. 204.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION. Kindergarten registration for the 1997-98 school year will be held at Elba Elementary School on Friday, March 21, 1997, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ANNUAL FIELD DAY. The Elba Youth Training Center's 3rd Annual Field Day will be held on Saturday, March 22, 1997, starting at 8:00 a.m. This event will take place at the old Mulberry High School in Elba, AL. All children are urged to participate in this activity.

COMMISSION MEETING. The Coffee County Commission will hold its bi-monthly meeting Monday, March 24, at 9:00 a.m. in the Community Room located in the Farm Center Complex in New Brockton.